

Country Life—January 13, 1950

IN PRAISE OF CONIFERS

By J. D. U. Ward

COUNTRY LIFE

On Sale Friday
JANUARY 13, 1950

TWO SHILLINGS



THE MARKET HOUSE, WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK

C. Righton Campin

AUCTIONS

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 126

COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CVII No. 2765

JANUARY 13, 1950

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

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DOUBLE GARAGE.
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COTTAGE. STABLING.

GREENHOUSES.

Garden. Paddock. Woodland. $10\frac{3}{4}$ ACRES

Sole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS (Cirencester), Old Council Chambers,
Cirencester (Tel. 334/5). (Folio 9300)

By direction of Dr. A. H. Manfield.

WITH VACANT POSSESSION.

BEDFORDSHIRE

Sharnbrook $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Bedford $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

THE CHARMING COUNTRY RESIDENCE WELL KNOWN AS THE OLD RECTORY, BLETSOE

Occupying a pleasant position with views over the Ouse Valley.

Hall, 8 bedrooms with
basins (h. and c.), 3 recep-
tion rooms, 3 bathrooms,
complete offices.

Main electric light and
water. Central heating.

2 garages. Stabling for 3
with rooms over.

Pretty grounds with fine
old trees. Spacious lawns.
2 paddocks, in all about

12 acres 3 roads 4 poles.

Which will be offered for Sale by Auction (unless previously sold privately)
at the Swan Hotel, Bedford, on Wednesday, January 25, 1950, at 2.30 p.m.
Joint Auctioneers: Messrs. JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, Bridge Street,
Northampton (Tel. 2615/6), and Messrs. JARVIS & CO., Estate Offices,
Haywards Heath, Sussex (Tel. 700).



AUCTIONEERS AND VALUERS
Tel. GROsvenor 3121
(3 lines)

WINKWORTH & CO.

48, CURZON STREET,
MAYFAIR,
LONDON, W.1.

REQUIRED TO PURCHASE

In any part of England, but preferably South of Birmingham and East of Cornwall, within 200 miles of London.

A FREEHOLD AGRICULTURAL ESTATE OF FROM 1,000 TO 5,000 ACRES

COMPRISING FOR CHOICE

A COLLECTION OF PRODUCTIVE WELL-LET FARMS, SHOWING AN ADEQUATE RETURN

Please reply, if possible with Estate Plan, to: "VICTORIA," c/o WINKWORTH & CO., 48, Curzon Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

KENT—SUSSEX BORDERS

Between Edenbridge (4 miles) and Tonbridge (8 miles)



A RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY OF 113 ACRES

Suitable for adaptation for Dairy Farming, and at present housing a champion herd of Wessex Saddleback pigs. Delightful Tudor Farmhouse, 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom. Main water and electricity. Part central heating. 3 cottages and a flat. Farm buildings, including garage, oast house, barn, hunter stabling and tyings for 7 cows.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Another 70 acres available if required.

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. and Messrs. LANGRIDGE AND FREEMAN, Tunbridge Wells.

INVERNESS-SHIRE

TROUT FISHING AND SHOOTING

The Residence is in excellent order throughout and occupies a choice situation facing south with one of the grandest panoramas in the Highlands.

5 public rooms, 19 principal bedrooms and 8 bathrooms.

Secondary residence with 5 bedrooms, 2 public rooms and bathroom.

Home Farm of about 240 acres, all arable land (let).

Cottages. The remainder of the estate is moorland.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 10,000 ACRES

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (15,064)

MAYfair 3771 (10 lines)

LIMPSFIELD COMMON

(Adjoining). 1½ miles from Oxted Station.



A VERY ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE

Having every convenience. 3 reception rooms, well-fitted domestic offices, 8 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms. Central heating. Main electric light and water. Gas. Main drainage. Garage for 2.

Easily maintained garden with large paddock.

IN ALL 5 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD
Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (45,866)

20 MILES S. OF LONDON

CLOSE TO A FAMOUS GOLF COURSE



A WELL-EQUIPPED COUNTRY HOUSE

Built of brick, with tiled roof, and in excellent order. 3 reception rooms, 9 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms.

Central heating. All main services.

2 double garages with chauffeur's room.

Delightful gardens and grounds, which have been carefully maintained. Rose gardens, tennis lawns, kitchen garden.

ABOUT 2 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (29,209)

ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA

Fine position 2 miles from the coast.



A WELL-BUILT RESIDENCE

Built of brick, partly tile hung, with tiled roof. Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and servants' quarters. Central heating. All main services. Garage with chauffeur's room.

2 first-rate cottages.

Well timbered gardens delightfully disposed. Productive kitchen garden and paddock. About 4½ acres.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD with or without cottages.

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (22,136)

EIRE. CORK 5 MILES

MODERNISED GEORGIAN-STYLE HOUSE

3 reception rooms, 4 principal bedrooms, 3 staff rooms, 2 bathrooms.

Central heating. Main electric light. Good water supply. Stabling. Garage for 2.

Attractive gardens and grounds.

ABOUT 45 ACRES

TO BE LET FURNISHED

with plate and linen.

Servants by arrangement.

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (P.10,651)

Telegrams:

"Galleries, Wesdo, London"

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NICHOLAS

(Established 1882)

4, ALBANY COURT YARD, PICCADILLY, W.1; 1, STATION ROAD, READING

PRELIMINARY NOTICE

ATHELHAMPTON HALL, DORSET

6 miles from Dorchester, 16 miles Weymouth and 23 miles from Bournemouth.

ONE OF THE FINEST SPECIMENS OF TUDOR DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE IN ENGLAND

and rich in historical associations, seated, with quiet dignity amid beautiful old gardens and pleasaunces.

The accommodation briefly comprises the great hall with magnificent timbered roof, linenfold panelling and minstrel's gallery.

5 reception rooms, all oak panelled, 10 bedrooms, many panelled in oak, 9 bathrooms, mostly superbly fitted, and secondary accommodation, excellent modern offices.



The house has a wealth of panelling and oak work generally: old fireplaces, a secret staircase, secret panels and concealed doors, and has been wonderfully restored.

The gardens are typical with clipped yew hedges, lily tanks and fountains, and fine wrought-iron gates.

AMPLE STABLING AND GARAGE ACCOMMODATION

12 ACRES IN ALL

This wonderful old place, probably the best of the smaller show places of the West Country, will be sold by Auction in the Spring unless sold privately in the meantime.

Preliminary particulars of the Auctioneers: Messrs. NICHOLAS, 4, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1. and at Reading.

Telegrams:

"Nichenyer, Piccy, London"

"Nicholas, Reading"

SACKVILLE HOUSE
40, PICCADILLY, W.1
(Entrance in Sackville Street)

HERTS AND BUCKS BORDERS

450 feet up on ridge of Chiltern Hills on fringe of unspoilt village with lovely common, 22 miles from London.



Small Georgian Country House of perfection

Beautifully mellowed, carefully modernised with features well preserved; specimen fireplaces; polished oak floors. 3 reception, 8 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms. "Aga"; central heating; mains. 2 garages, studio and outbuildings. Fine old walled gardens, orchard, spinney and pastureland. FOR SALE WITH 7 OR 20 ACRES.
F. L. MERCER & Co., 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Tel: REGent 2481.

F. L. MERCER & CO.

REGent 2481

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX

A STately AND WELL-EQUIPPED DETACHED RESIDENCE

In one of the most favoured parts of this favourite coastal resort. On high ground with magnificent views of the South Downs and the Channel.

The residence is compactly planned and approached by a short drive. Hall and cloakroom, 3 fine reception rooms facing south, 14 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Excellent domestic offices with maids' sitting-room.

DOUBLE GARAGE. CENTRAL HEATING.

MAIN SERVICES

Well stocked gardens having private entrance to the Royal Eastbourne Golf Links.

FOR SALE WITH 2 ACRES

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Tel: REGent 2481.

ADJOINING WALTON HEATH

Surrey. With superb views embracing many miles of country.



ARCHITECT-DESIGNED HOUSE

with very charming interior and all rooms facing due South. 3 reception rooms (polished wood floors). 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, maids' sitting room. Mains. Central heating. Attractive gardens, tennis and private gateway to Walton Heath.

1½ ACRES. £29,750

F. L. MERCER & Co., 40, Piccadilly, W.1. REGent 2481.



HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

REGent 8222 (15 lines)

Telegrams: "Selanlet, Piccy, London"



WEST SURREY—HANTS BORDER

Well chosen position overlooking and amidst delightful country
2 miles station with electric train service (1 hr. Waterloo).



EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY HOUSE

Well planned in glorious position on southern slope. Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 principal bedrooms, maid's room, 5 bathrooms. Self-contained flat. Main electricity, water and gas. Fitted basins.

Central heating.

Garage, stabling.

3 COTTAGES.

Beautiful gardens and grounds with orchard, pasture and woodland, in all

ABOUT 30 ACRES



IN FIRST-CLASS ORDER THROUGHOUT. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1.

(S.53509)

HANTS, BEAULIEU

ATTRACTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE

In secluded position. With uninterrupted views of the river.



Lounge hall, with cloakroom, lounge, dining room, 6 bedrooms, bathroom. Main services. Garage for 2 cars.

Partly walled garden of 1 ACRE

PRICE £9,750

Apply: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (H.55,064)

FIRST TIME IN THE MARKET.

Amidst lovely surroundings with beautiful views adjoining moorland.

Between Newton Abbot and Plymouth

A VALUABLE AND COMPACT ESTATE OF 56 ACRES



With small attested Dairy Farm.

CHARMING OLD STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE

Hall, 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, usual offices. Admirable order. Co.'s electric light and power. Water. Secondary house. 2 cottages. Garage. Excellent farmbuildings, shippens for 26. Stabling, etc. Pleasure gardens with stream. 8 enclosures of grassland, arable and woodland, etc.

£14,000 FREEHOLD

Apply: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (C.53,803)

SOUTH CORNISH COAST

Superb position overlooking Falmouth Bay.

A YACHTSMAN'S PARADISE.



FOR SALE

A UNIQUE RESIDENCE

built by the owner regardless of cost.

Lounge hall (20 ft. x 20 ft.), dining room (20 ft. 6 in. x 18 ft. 6 in.), study, Aga, staff quarters for married couple. Bedroom (1) with door to balcony—a superb room about 37 ft. x 18 ft., with luxury bathroom; bedroom (2) about 23 ft. x 11 ft.; bedroom (3) with a beautiful oriel bay teak window and with own bathroom; bedroom (4) about 30 ft. x 15 ft., communicating with another bathroom; bedroom (5) about 22 ft. x 22 ft. 6 in., also communicating bathroom.

Central heating. Co.'s electric light.

GARAGE. TWO LODGES.

Natural gardens, the whole extending to

ABOUT 16 ACRES

For full details of this superb property apply: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (C.53,811)

UNSOLD AUCTION BARGAIN

BETWEEN MARLBOROUGH AND ANDOVER

Attractive Period Country Residence in lovely rural surroundings.

3 reception, billiards, cloaks, 10 bedrooms, 3 baths.

Central heating. Main e.l.

Garage, 4 stables, out-buildings.

Garden partly walled. 2 paddocks.

8 ACRES.



FREEHOLD ONLY £6,000

Apply: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (H.55,028)

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON, S.W.19 (Tel: WIM. 0081) & BISHOP'S STORTFORD (Tel. 243)

GLORIOUS POSITION, 16 MILES EXETER.

DEVON

In the fertile country between Okehampton and Crediton. Enjoying extensive views.

A CHARMING GEORGIAN MANOR HOUSE



modernised, facing south. 3 reception rooms, 9 bed and dressing (all with basins; h. and c.), 2 bathrooms, complete offices including kitchen with Aga.

Own electricity and water.

Central heating. Garage and stabling. Bungalow.

Home Farm with capital buildings.

Well-timbered gardens.

Lake providing trout fishing.

60 acres arable, 25 pasture, 5 acres woodland, in all ABOUT 92 ACRES
TO BE SOLD AS A WHOLE OR THE HOUSE WITH ABOUT 30 ACRES

Apply: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (C.53,20)

REgent
4304

OSBORN & MERCER

28b, ALBEMARLE ST.,
PICCADILLY, W.1.

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

NEAR GODALMING

Delightfully situate facing due South, standing high and enjoying lovely views to Hindhead and the South Downs.

A WELL-APPOINTED RESIDENCE
of picturesque design in red brick and in splendid order. Gallered entrance hall, 4 reception, 7 principal bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, self-contained staff flat.**Main services. Central heating.**
Modern Cottage. Garage for 3 cars.
Charming yet inexpensive gardens, orchard, kitchen garden, paddock, etc., in all **ABOUT 5 ACRES****FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (18,673)

ON THE EDGE OF DARTMOOR

Beautifully situate enjoying magnificent views over the moors and the Teign Valley.

A DELIGHTFUL 16th-CENTURY RESIDENCE
3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 staff rooms.**Main electricity. Central heating.**
Garage. Stabling. Outbuildings.
Pleasure garden, productive kitchen garden, paddock, etc., in all**ABOUT 2½ ACRES****FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (18,605)

BANSTEAD DOWNS

Splendidly situate adjacent to National Trust land and within easy access of first-rate golf.

A BEAUTIFULLY EQUIPPED RESIDENCE
in excellent decorative order throughout and extremely well planned

Lounge hall, 2 reception, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Main services. Central heating.
Well timbered gardens and grounds in all**ABOUT 2 ACRES****FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (18,521)

IN AN OLD NORFOLK VILLAGE

With daily coach service to London and buses to Norwich, Diss, etc.

A CHARMING OLD HOUSE

Built of brick and plaster, modernised and splendidly situate facing South

Hall, 3 reception, 3 bedrooms, bathroom.

Main electricity and water. Garage and barn.
Pleasure garden, kitchen garden, small paddock, etc., in all**ABOUT 1 ACRE****FREEHOLD ONLY £3,750 FOR QUICK SALE**

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (18,786)

EAST DORSET

An unique and charming small Georgian Residence skilfully converted and modernised

ENJOYING EXTENSIVE AND LOVELY VIEWS

2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, bathroom.

Central heating. Large garage.

Small but attractive garden, orchard and vegetable garden, in all

ABOUT ½ ACRE**PRICE FREEHOLD £5,500**

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (18,690)

SUNNINGDALE

Commanding lovely open views, in no way overlooked by other property.

A COMPACT LABOUR-SAVING RESIDENCE.
In first-class order and with well-planned accommodation on two floors only.

Hall, lounge, dining room, loggia, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Company's electricity, gas and water. Central heating.
The delightful gardens are a special feature and include hard tennis court, formal garden, kitchen garden, etc., in all**ABOUT 1 ACRE****PRICE £7,250**

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (18,650)

MILFORD-ON-SEA

Beautifully situate only a few minutes walk of the sea and within a short distance of excellent yachting facilities.

A CHARMING MODERN HOUSE

Brick built, in splendid order and having well planned accommodation

2 reception, 5 bedrooms, bathroom.

Main services. Central heating.
Attractively displayed gardens of about **1¼ ACRES****FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

(Note.—Small bungalow could be purchased in addition if desired.)

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (18,565)

SOMERSET

Amidst lovely surroundings on southern slopes of Mendip Hills.

BEAUTIFUL STONE BUILT JACOBAN REPLICA

4 reception rooms, billiards room, 11 bedrooms,

3 bathrooms.

Main electricity and gas. Central heating.
STABLING, GARAGES, EXCELLENT FARM**BUILDINGS FOR T.T. HERD**
Charming well-timbered gardens sloping to river, 2 lakes

(one stocked with trout), pasture, etc., in all

ABOUT 79 ACRES**FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (18,636)

FARNHAM COMMON

In a delightful situation surrounded by open land and about 1½ miles from golf course.

AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE
Brick built with tiled roof and in good order

throughout

3 reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, self-contained staff quarters.

Main services. Part central heating.

Pleasure garden, kitchen garden with fruit trees, in all

ABOUT 1 ACRE**FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (18,516)

3, MOUNT ST.,
LONDON, W.1

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

GROsvenor
1032-33

HERTFORDSHIRE. 20 MILES LONDON

400 feet above sea level. Within the Green Belt. Main line station about a mile.

**FAITHFUL REPRODUCTION OF
EARLY GEORGIAN PERIOD**

Mellowed red brick, facing due south, with fine views.

3 reception rooms, 7 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms.

MAIN ELECTRICITY AND WATER.**CENTRAL HEATING, ETC.**

Adjacent is cottage equipped in same style as the Residence (4 rooms, kitchen and bathroom)

and separate central heating, suitable for staff.

Garage (3), dairy, cowshed, and stalls.

TERRACED GARDENS OF PARTICULAR CHARM.

Swimming pool and stream with cascades, hard court, woodland, GRASS PARK and ARABLE.

IN ALL ABOUT 56 ACRES. FREEHOLD FOR SALE. POSSESSION ON COMPLETION

Personally recommended by Owner's Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

HANTS-WEST SUSSEX BORDERS

In a lovely situation between Farnham and Petersfield. 1½ miles main line station. Easily accessible to London by electric trains.

A MINIATURE RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING ESTATE OF ABOUT 120 ACRES**MEDIUM-SIZED RESIDENCE**

Recently the subject of considerable expenditure, well modernised and expensively equipped.

9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, model offices. Aga cooker. Self-contained 3-roomed flat with bathroom.

Electric light. New central heating. Estate water supply.

Stabling. Garage. 2 cottages.

TROUT LAKE OF ABOUT 4 ACRES**INEXPENSIVE GARDENS.****PRODUCTIVE KITCHEN GARDEN.****20 ACRES PASTURE.**

Remainder heath and woodland.

Duck and mixed shooting, boating, etc.

PRICE £15,000 FREEHOLD

Owner's London Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

23, HIGH STREET,
COLCHESTER

C. M. STANFORD & SON

Phone:
Colchester 3165

ESSEX

LAYER MARNEY HALL, NEAR COLCHESTER

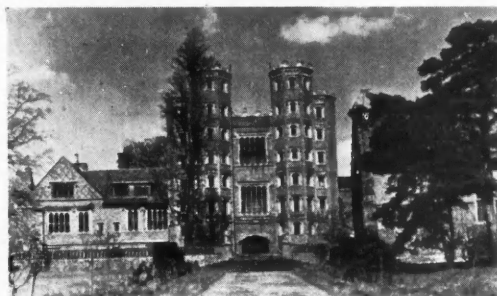
**AN IMPOSING AND DISTINCTIVE
TUDOR RED BRICK COUNTRY HOUSE**

fully modernised.

4 reception rooms. Billiards room. Cloakrooms.

Convenient planned domestic offices (Aga).

18 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms.

MAIN WATER AND ELECTRICITY.**CENTRAL HEATING.****FOR SALE FREEHOLD****VACANT POSSESSION**

Also

THE FINE OLD TUDOR GALLERY

(76 ft. x 20 ft.) with central heating.

Garage and stabling accommodation. Tithe barn,

glasshouses, etc.

Beautifully timbered grounds.

LODGE (vacant). 2 OTHER COTTAGES.**30 ACRES**184, BROMPTON ROAD,
LONDON, S.W.3

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY

KENington
0152-3

FALMOUTH

Quite a show place and offered at low price for quick sale.

LOVELY GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

With interesting historical connections, known locally as a place of beauty. Specially built and in marvellous repair. Much. Grinling Gibbons and Adams work, spiral staircase, lovely old wallpaper, wrought iron. 3 rec., 8 beds. (fitted basins h. and c.), bathroom.

Electricity. Main water. Tel. Outbuildings. Garage and stabling. Exquisite gardens. Pasture.

ABOUT 4½ ACRES FREEHOLD IMMEDIATE POSSESSION**BUCKS. SPLENDID T.T. DAIRY FARM, 72 ACRES.** Really good farm which should be seen at once. First-class highly productive land. Excellent farmhouse, 2 sitting, 6 beds, bath, h. and c. Main water and electricity. Septic tank drainage. Fine range of buildings, tying 24. Milking machine fitted. **FREEHOLD £10,000.****CHARMING COTTAGE IN WALES. 2 ACRES. £1,500.** Only just offered and certain to be sold quickly. Cosy, dry, and in excellent condition, just modernised. 3 beds., large lounge, bathroom, h. and c. Usual domestic offices. Lovely position only 3 miles from and overlooking market town. **DEFINITE BARGAIN. FREEHOLD. POSSESSION.****17th-CENTURY COTTAGE, NEAR HENLEY.** Glorious position convenient for Reading and Shiplake. Entirely modernised and absolutely perfect. 3 rec., 5 principal beds., maid's bed and bathroom. Excellent domestic offices. Main water. Electric light. Central heating. Modern drainage. Lovely matured garden about **1 ACRE.** Hard tennis court. Garage. **FREEHOLD. PRICE MOST REASONABLE.**

GROSVENOR 1533
(4 lines)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)
25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1

Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,
West Halkin St.,
Belgrave Sq.,
and 68, Victoria St.,
Westminster, S.W.1.

RUTLAND—LINCS BORDER

In village about 4 miles from Stamford.



A DELIGHTFUL OLD CHARACTER HOUSE
Recently the subject of considerable expense in complete renovation. 3 reception rooms, 2 kitchens, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main water. House partly wired to receive main electricity (expected shortly). Garage. Stabling. Gardener's cottage outhouses. Grounds of about 2 ACRES with lawns and tennis court. **PRICE £24,000.** Further details of GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, as above. (BX.530).

ISLE OF WIGHT FRESHWATER—YARMOUTH

On high ground with extensive views across the Solent and also embracing Tennyson Down.

CHALE STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE

with 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, servants' sitting room. Main electricity. Garages. Stabling. Attractive grounds of 3½ ACRES with lawns, orchard and paddock. **FREEHOLD £28,000**
Particulars of GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, as above. (C3508).

WEST SUSSEX

Facing south, overlooking Chantonbury Down. 1½ miles West Sussex Golf Course.

A STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE

on outskirts of village, comprising: 12 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, oak-panelled lounge and dining room, 2 other spacious reception rooms. In very good decorative order. Central heating. Modern drainage. Range of outbuildings. Cottage. In grounds of **ABOUT 40 ACRES**

IDEAL FOR USE AS COUNTRY CLUB OR HOTEL.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Full details of GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, as above. (D.2682)

OXON—NEAR BANBURY

Within easy reach of River Cherwell fishing.



LATE 18th-CENTURY RESIDENCE OF MELLOW STONE WITH TILED ROOF

Hall and cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, servants' sitting room, 8 bed. and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. Main electricity and water. Central heating. Septic tank drainage. Garage and stabling. Grounds of 3½ ACRES with paddock. **PRICE £6,750**

Owner's Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. (C.6174)

50, BROOK STREET,
MAYFAIR, LONDON,
W.1

COLLINS & COLLINS

Telephone:
MAYfair 6248

LOVELY OLD MODERNISED FARMHOUSE OF CHARACTER

Wiltshire. About two hours from Paddington. Easy reach of Bath and Bristol.



On outskirts of village. Secluded position. Views to the Wiltshire Downs. Entrance hall, cloakroom, 2 reception rooms (third if required), 4 bed and 2 maids' bedrooms, 2 BATHROOMS. ELECTRIC LIGHT. Kitchen (Aga cooker). Garage. Stabling. Old-world Garden, well stocked with fruit trees, **ABOUT 2½ ACRES.**
FREEHOLD. PRICE £7,750, OPEN TO OFFER. VACANT POSSESSION
Owner's Agents: COLLINS & COLLINS. Folio 24207.

AGRICULTURAL LAND WANTED FOR INVESTMENT

A Trust Fund of £50,000 has been set aside for the purchase of a block of **HIGH-CLASS FARMS** to show 3½ to 4 per cent.

OWNER OCCUPIER or SITTING TENANT can remain undisturbed.
ONLY GOOD QUALITY LAND CONSIDERED

Particulars to Messrs. COLLINS & COLLINS, Estate Agents, 50, Brook Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.

REQUIRED TO PURCHASE SUSSEX, OXON, HERTS, BERKS OR HANTS

**£10,000 to £20,000 will be paid for a
RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER**

in real unspoilt country accessible for village and bus service, within 10 miles of a main line station.

8-12 bedrooms, 2-3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Matured gardens and timbered parklands from **50-200 ACRES**

WITH SMALL HOME FARM FOR A T.T. HERD AND ONE OR TWO COTTAGES.

Particulars to COLLINS & COLLINS, Estate Agents, 50, Brook Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.

28, BARTHOLOMEW STREET,
NEWBURY

THAKE & PAGINTON

Tel.: NEWBURY 582/3
(2 lines)

CHARMING OLD-WORLD COTTAGE RESIDENCE

Beautifully restored and modernised and in excellent condition throughout.

Stroudon 3 miles.



Small lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, offices, 3 bedrooms, modern bathroom.

Garage and outbuildings.

Productive and well laid out garden.

IN ALL ABOUT ¼ ACRE

ALL MAIN SERVICES.

VACANT POSSESSION

PRICE £4,600

(9663)

WILTS. On the edge of an attractive village about 6 miles from Marlborough. **PRETTY OLD-WORLD COTTAGE RESIDENCE**, recently renovated and modernised. Brick and flint built with thatched roof. Large hall, 2 reception rooms kitchen, cloakroom, 3 bedrooms, bathroom. **1 ACRE.** Main water and electricity. Septic tank drainage. **PRICE £4,250.** (9540)

IN QUIET VILLAGE BETWEEN NEWBURY AND READING. CHARMING OLD RESIDENCE OF GREAT CHARACTER, built of brick with tiled roof and now being converted into two houses with following accommodation: (a) splendid lounge (23 ft. x 23 ft.), dining room, cloakroom, offices, "Esse" cooker, 5 bedrooms (largest 36 ft. x 14 ft.), 2 bathrooms. Garage. Excellent grounds. Main water and electricity. Modern drainage. **PRICE £5,350.** (b) hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Garage. Stable. Garden. Main electricity and water. Modern drainage. Good sized rooms. **PRICE £4,350.** (2582)

RESIDENCE (formerly The Old Post Office), **OGBOURNE ST. GEORGE. NEAR MARLBOROUGH. BRICK-BUILT AND SLATED RESIDENCE** in a village with excellent bus services. 3 sitting rooms, large kitchen, 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Buildings. Small garden. Main electricity. Modern drainage. Main water expected to be available shortly. **VACANT POSSESSION. FOR SALE BY AUCTION (UNLESS PREVIOUSLY SOLD) AT CASTLE AND BALL HOTEL, MARLBOROUGH, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1950, AT 3 O'CLOCK.**

ASHFORD,
KENT

GEERING & COLYER

Telephone:
Ashford 25

and at
HAWKHURST & TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT; RYE, HEATHFIELD and
WADHURST, SUSSEX

VERY STRONGLY RECOMMENDED
HIGHLY REMUNERATIVE FRUIT, MARKET GARDEN
AND T.T. DAIRY HOLDING OF 172 ACRES IN KENT
APPROXIMATE ANNUAL INCOME £12,500

Situated best fruit-growing area, 35 miles London. 34 acres matured orchards (mostly cherries) and 14 acres strawberries. Soil eminently suitable market gardening. Main water and electricity.

ATTRACTIVE PERIOD FARM RESIDENCE
5 bed., etc. 4 MODERN COTTAGES. Excellent farm buildings inc. modern T.T. parlour for 8 and large covered yards.

EARLY POSSESSION

FREEHOLD £19,200

Valuable Dairy Herd and Dead Stock if required.

MOST DELIGHTFUL OLD-WORLD COUNTRY RESIDENCE

Only 2½ miles

KENT COAST

very pleasantly and conveniently situated. 4 bedrooms (all with basins), bathroom, 2 charming reception rooms, etc. Main water and electricity. Telephone. Garage and stable. Garden. **¾ ACRE IN ALL** Recommended.

FREEHOLD £3,500. VACANT POSSESSION

Apply to GEERING & COLYER, as above.

WELLESLEY SMITH & CO.

17, BLAGRAVE STREET, READING. Reading 2920 & 4112.

SURREY—BERKSHIRE BORDERS

A glorious situation, high up, with widespread views and entirely secluded. **AN ARCHITECT-DESIGNED HOUSE OF MOST PLEASING APPEARANCE WITH WELL-ARRANGED ACCOMMODATION ON TWO FLOORS** 3 sitting, 7 bedrooms, good domestic offices, 4 bathrooms. Main services. Garage. Also 2 cottages if required. Lovely terraced gardens and woodland of **3 ACRES FREEHOLD**
£8,000 OR BEST OFFER

TO APPEAL TO AN ARTIST

STONE-BUILT PERIOD COTTAGE WITH LATTICE WINDOWS

In quiet N. Bucks village.

Entirely modernised and in first-class order.

Hall, cloakroom, 2 sitting, 3/4 bedrooms, bathroom. All mains. Central heating. Studio, garden room and garage accommodation. Easily kept garden.

4,000 GUINEAS FREEHOLD

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

The healthiest location within 20 miles London.

AN EXCELLENT HOUSE, HIGH UP WITH PASTORAL VIEWS

Hall, 3 sitting, 6/7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main services. Partial central heating. Garage and 4 ACRES, mainly woodland and pasture.

£6,250 FREEHOLD

QUEEN ANNE HOUSE IN DORSET

Cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Central heating. Main services. Cottage, garage and stabling. Partly walled garden.

3 ACRES. FREEHOLD £7,500

5, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1.

CURTIS & HENSON

GROSVENOR 3131 (3 lines)
Established 1875

BERKSHIRE. FACING OPEN COUNTRY

Under a mile from town and station. 1 hour's run from London.

HOUSE OF GEORGIAN CHARACTER

IN 13 ACRES WITH 2-ACRE LAKE

The house is most conveniently planned, on 2 floors, with spacious, well proportioned rooms, including lounge hall, 2 other good reception rooms, cloakroom and first-class offices, with staff flat, 8 bedrooms (mostly fitted basins), 3 bathrooms.



GAS-FIRED CENTRAL HEATING.

ALL MAIN SERVICES.

HEATED GARAGES.

STABLING AND OUTBUILDINGS.

WALLED GARDEN AND ORCHARDING.

USEFUL PADDOCKS WITH LAKE.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, as above.

NORWICH
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130, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.1. (MAYfair 0023/4)

HOLT, HADLEIGH
AND CAMBRIDGE

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.

KENT

About equi-distant (6 miles) from Sittingbourne and Faversham.

THE HEAVILY-TIMBERED FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING ESTATE

SHARSTED COURT

EXTENDING TO ABOUT 825 ACRES

Including

FASCINATING OLD COUNTRY HOUSE IN MATURED GROUNDS

THREE FRUIT AND MIXED FARMS LET TO ESTABLISHED TENANTS

ABOUT 50 ACRES OF VALUABLE MIXED ORCHARDS WITH VACANT POSSESSION

OVER 250 ACRES WOODLAND AND TIMBERED PARKLANDS WITH VACANT POSSESSION

ACCOMMODATION LANDS. SECONDARY RESIDENCE. 11 COTTAGES AND LODGES

FOR SALE PRIVATELY NOW AS A WHOLE OR IN LOTS, OR BY AUCTION EARLY IN THE NEW YEAR

Particulars, which are in course of preparation, may be obtained from the Sole Agents: R. C. KNIGHT & SONS, as above.

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9344/5,6,7/8

FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO.

(Established 1799)

AUCTIONEERS. CHARTERED SURVEYORS. LAND AGENTS
29, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.4.

Telegrams:
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NEAR ESHER

adjoining Arbrook Common.

MODERN FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

5 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS. 3 STAFF ROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS.

3 RECEPTION ROOMS.

GOOD DOMESTIC OFFICES.

MAIN SERVICES.



CENTRAL HEATING.

GARAGE.

ATTRACTIVE GARDEN AND GROUNDS.

IN ALL ABOUT 1 1/2 ACRES

FREEHOLD £10,750

(Subject to Contract.)

Particulars from: Messrs. FAREBROTHER ELLIS & CO., 29, Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. CENtral 9344 5,6,7/8

And at
Aldershot

ALFRED PEARSON & SON

Walcote Chambers, High Street, Winchester (Tel. 3388). Fleet Road, Fleet, Hants (Tel. 1066).

And at
Farnborough

SURREY
On high ground in a delightful sylvan setting.
ARCHITECT-DESIGNED LABOUR-SAVING COTTAGE RESIDENCE



4 bedrooms, bathroom, hall and cloak, 2 reception rooms and loggia, modern kitchen.

Garage.

Attractive terraced garden.

PRICE £5,950

FREEHOLD

Aldershot Office.

FLEET—HANTS. WELL EQUIPPED CHOICE MODERN RESIDENCE
In ideal situation and replete with all conveniences. Few minutes' walk of shops and station (Waterloo under the hour).

In excellent order. 6 bedrooms (4 h. and c.), dressing room, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom.

Double garage. All main services. Central heating. Attractive and easily managed garden.

ABOUT 3/4 ACRE

BARGAIN PRICE £6,250

FREEHOLD

Fleet Office.



23, MOUNT ST.,
GROSVENOR SQ., LONDON, W.1

WILSON & CO.

GROSVENOR
1441

700 ft. UP BETWEEN REIGATE AND WALTON HEATH



SUPERBLY APPOINTED RESIDENCE IN FAULTLESS ORDER IN BEAUTIFUL UNSPOILT COUNTRY ADJOINING NATIONAL TRUST LANDS

18 miles South of London
7 best and 4 maids' bedrooms with basins (h. & c.), 4 bathrooms, billiards room, and 3 fine reception rooms.
MAIN SERVICES, CENTRAL HEATING
2 GARAGES, 2 SERVICE COTTAGES.
Finely timbered gardens with hard court.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH OVER 9 ACRES

Highly recommended by Joint Sole Agents: WATKIN & WATKIN, Reigate; WILSON & Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

RURAL SUSSEX

Between East Grinstead and Tunbridge Wells.



BEAUTIFUL ELIZABETHAN HOUSE surrounded by Farmlands and within easy reach of station. 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge hall, 3 reception, Esse cooker, main water, central heating. Picturesque cottage. Useful buildings. Well laid-out gardens, orchard and paddock. **FREEHOLD £10,000 WITH ABOUT 5 ACRES**

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

WILSON & Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

16, ARCADE STREET,
IPSWICH
Ipswich 4334

WOODCOCKS

30, ST. GEORGE STREET,
HANOVER SQUARE, W.1
MAYfair 5411

LANCASTER 8 miles. CHOICE ESTATE, 800 ACRES, mostly let, with grouse moor and 1,500 acres shooting rights, with salmon and trout fishing; Hall has about 20 rooms and 6 bathrooms with central heating and hydro-electricity, and, with grounds and **40 ACRES**, is in hand. **PRICE £25,000**.—Woodcocks, London Office.

SUFFOLK/NORFOLK BORDER (beautiful Waveney Valley). **A DIGNIFIED RESIDENCE**, re-decorated; 3 reception, 18 beds, 2 bathrooms, modern kitchen; mains electricity; delightfully timbered parklike grounds; **3 ACRES. ONLY £4,500**. Bargain. Further 5 acres park if required. Confidently recommended.—Apply Ipswich Office.

ATLANTIC COAST, ½ mile from lovely bathing beaches. Exceptional farm, **168 ACRES** exceedingly fertile land. **GENTLEMAN'S HOUSE** (9 bedrooms, bath, electric light, main water). Very extensive buildings (tie 44 cows, etc.); cottage. **UNIQUE PLACE AT £16,000. POSSESSION APRIL**.—Woodcocks, London Office.

WELSH COAST

Fishing in two lakes and 4 miles of river.



LOVELY OLD ELIZABETHAN HOUSE. 5 reception, 8 principal, 7 secondary bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. 10½ kw. hydro-electric plant, free water, part central heating. Gate house by Inigo Jones, lodge and 2 cottages. Home farm with house, ample buildings. **IN ALL 2,783 ACRES**, mostly pastures, and all in hand. **FREEHOLD £30,000; OR WITH 30 ACRES £10,000 POSSESSION**

Woodcocks, 30, St. George Street, London, W.1.

PYTCHEY HUNT. Owner of very attractive **325-ACRE FARM**, having purchased a different class of property, will sell with **EARLY POSSESSION. HOUSE, WITH CHARMING DRIVE**, has 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, etc., and main electric; perhaps the best set of buildings in the Midlands, with many covered yards. This unique property, 1½ hours London, **FOR £32,500**.—Woodcocks, London Office.

NEW FOREST, handy Bournemouth. **LOVELY OLD-WORLD HOUSE**, in matured gardens, with **60 ACRES** good land, bounded trout stream; 3 sitting, 6 bedrooms, modern comforts, including main electric light, central heating; 2 cottages and ample farmery; choice little estate for **£13,500. POSSESSION**.—Woodcocks, London Office.

SOUTH SUFFOLK (in pleasant market town). **HISTORICAL 16th-CENTURY RESIDENCE** having wealth massive oak timbers and other period features; lofty lounge hall, 3 large reception, 6 beds, 2 bathrooms; all main services; walled garden; **FREEHOLD £4,500. IMMEDIATE SALE DESIRED**.—Apply Ipswich Office.

SALISBURY

ROBERT THAKE & CO.

Tel. 2227

HAMPSHIRE, AVON VALLEY

GENTLEMAN'S DAIRY FARM OF ABOUT 60 ACRES FERTILE PASTURE LAND



Trout stream.
Interesting 16th-Century Residence. 6 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, hall, cloakroom, excellent offices. Central heating. Main electricity. Inexpensive grounds. Farm buildings. 2 cottages.

PRICE FREEHOLD £14,000 INCLUDING TENANT RIGHT

(C.R.2582)

DORSET

Midway between Salisbury and Blandford.

400 feet up. **SIXTEENTH-CENTURY RESIDENCE**, built of flint and brick with many features of historical interest; although modernised, retains all the beauty of its original state. Accommodation: 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, bathroom, 5 bedrooms. Good offices. Garage. Walled garden of **1 ACRE**. Greenhouse. Electric lighting. **PRICE ONLY £5,500 FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION MARCH 25, 1950** (C.R.2065)

The above properties are all offered Freehold with Vacant Possession. For further particulars apply to the Agents, as above.

VERY SUNNY

6 bed. and dressing rooms, 2 maids' rooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, good offices. Central heating. Main electricity and water.

Matured grounds.

16 ACRES

Paddock. Garage. Stables.

PRICE FREEHOLD £13,000.

(C.R.355)

NEAR SALISBURY

Commands glorious views.

GEORGIAN COUNTRY RESIDENCE



WILTSHIRE

In a high-up southern village 8 miles from Salisbury.

AN ATTRACTIVE SMALL COUNTRY RESIDENCE with valuable pig and poultry allocation. Accommodation: 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, good offices. Garage. Store sheds. Pigsty. About **5½ ACRES**. Main electricity and water. **PRICE ONLY £4,750. FREEHOLD FOR QUICK SALE.**

Usual valuations. (C.R.2171)

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley St. W.1

GROSVENOR 2861. Telegrams: "Cornishmen, London"

£10,500. 32 ACRES (WOULD DIVIDE)

SUSSEX. 6 miles Horsham. **COUNTRY RESIDENCE**. Hall, 4 reception, bath-room, 6 principal bedrooms, staff quarters 3 rooms. Electric light. Main water. Phone. Double garage, outbuildings. Grounds, orchards and pasture.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (6,823)

VIEWS TO THE RIVER FAL AND THE ENGLISH CHANNEL

CORNWALL. In a woodland setting. Secluded position, exceptionally pleasing **MODERN HOUSE**, built by an architect for his own occupation. Well fitted with central heating, excellent cupboards, oak flooring; all on two floors. 6 bed., 2 bath., 3 reception, loggia, hall, kitchen, maids' sitting room. Playroom. Main electricity, good water supply. Garages for 3. Matured grounds with profusion of bulbs, etc., **IN ALL ABOUT 2 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD. IMMEDIATE POSSESSION**.—Strongly recommended by TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (21,098)

DEVON. **LICENSED COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL FOR SALE FREEHOLD**, or Partnership considered; in lovely sporting part of the county, convenient Taunton and Exeter, first-class connection. Excellent all-the-year-round bookings; close to prosperous market town and good schools. 19 bedrooms (most h. and c.), 6 bathrooms, lounge hall, 4 reception, annexe with bars (licensed). Main electric light and water. Aga cooker, stabling, garages. Charming grounds of **4 ACRES** intersected by stream. Health breakdown sole reason for sale.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1.

S. W. SANDERS,
F.V.A.

SANDERS'

T. S. SANDER
F.V.A.

FORE STREET, SIDMOUTH. Tels.: Sidmouth 31 and 109.
And at SOUTH STREET, AXMINSTER.

SIDMOUTH. AN IMPOSING AND WELL-ARRANGED RESIDENCE with grounds of **ABOUT 2 ACRES**. 4 reception and 10 bedrooms with 2 bathroom. All main services. **FREEHOLD £14,000 OR NEAR OFFER.**

SIDMOUTH. Commanding open sea views for 30 miles, with all rooms having a south aspect. **DELIGHTFULLY PLACED RESIDENCE** on high ground. 3 reception, 6 bedrooms. **1¾ ACRES** garden. **PRICE REDUCED TO £9,500 FREEHOLD.**

SIDMOUTH. On Salcombe Hill. **SMALL AND WELL-ARRANGED PROPERTY**. 3 reception and 4 bedrooms. **¾ ACRE** garden. **FREEHOLD £8,000.**

EAST DEVON. Sidmouth 7 miles, Ottery St. Mary 2 miles. **GEORGIAN-STYLE ATTRACTIVELY PLACED COUNTRY HOUSE**. 2 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms and 2 useful secondary rooms. Small garden. Main electricity and every modern service. **FREEHOLD £5,500.**

EAST DEVON. Within easy reach of Exeter. **A DIGNIFIED OLD GEORGIAN HOUSE**, perfectly restored with 4 reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Attractive old-world garden of **2 ACRES. FREEHOLD £9,500.**

Telegrams:
"Wood, Agents, Wesdo,
London"

JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

MAYfair 6341
(10 lines)

JUST IN THE MARKET.

ST. LEONARDS FOREST, NEAR HORSHAM

ATTRACTIVE SMALL RESIDENTIAL AND FARMING ESTATE ON GREENSAND SOIL
COMPRISING CHARMING MEDIUM-SIZED MODERN HOUSE WITH HOME FARM AND SPORTING WODOLAND



Spacious hall, 3 reception rooms, study, 6 principal bed and dressing rooms arranged in suites including 4 with basins.

3 staff bedrooms, 4 bathrooms.

CENTRAL HEATING.
MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER.
AMPLE WATER SUPPLY.

Garages. Stabling. Attractive gardens and kitchen garden with tennis court.

3 SERVICE COTTAGES. FARM BUILDINGS.
ABOUT 165 ACRES



FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Joint Sole Agents: WM. WOOD, SON & GARDNER, Estate Offices, Crawley, and JOHN D. WOOD & CO., as above. (33,238)

FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION.

CHIDDINGFOLD, SURREY

Easy reach of Witley Station, with fast trains to Waterloo.

ORIGINAL JACOBAN HOUSE COMPLETELY MODERNISED ON LABOUR SAVING LINES



8 BEDROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS, LOUNGE HALL
AND 3 RECEPTION ROOMS. AGA COOKER.
CENTRAL HEATING THROUGHOUT. MAIN
ELECTRIC LIGHT AND WATER.

Staff flat. Garages for 3. Delightful part-walled gardens.

The property is run as a thriving commercial market
garden with a large range of heated glass.

Another cottage (vacant). Orchard held on lease.



ABOUT 14 ACRES FREEHOLD FOR SALE

Recommended by the Joint Agents: H. B. BAVERSTOCK & SON, Godalming, and JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (21,971)

DORSET COAST, LYME REGIS

Extensive views of Lyme Bay, Chesil Beach and Portland Bill.

ATTRACTIVE MODERN LABOUR-SAVING RESIDENCE



Situated in magnificent position 450 ft. above sea level on the
Coast.

HALL WITH CLOAKROOM.
3 RECEPTION ROOMS.
5 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS.
EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-PLANNED DOMESTIC
OFFICES

ALL MAIN SERVICES.
SUN VERANDAH AND BALCONY.

GARAGE AND SHED
PLEASURE AND VEGETABLE GARDENS.

ABOUT ONE ACRE.



FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Recommended by the Joint Sole Agents: A. PAUL & SON, 29, Broad Street, Lyme Regis, and JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (62,531)

14 MILES WEST OF OXFORD

BUCKLAND HOUSE, NEAR FARINGDON

TO BE LET ON LEASE

Unfurnished or partly furnished.

THIS NOTED COUNTRY HOUSE

built in 1757 and considered to be an out-
standing example of the domestic architecture
of the middle 18th century.

Beautifully sited in a park but close to village
and bus route.



In first-class repair and equipped with MAIN
ELECTRICITY, OIL-BURNING BOILERS
for central heating and bath water, modern
bathrooms, electric passenger lift, etc.

Hall, 7 reception rooms, ballroom, 28 bedrooms
(all told), 12 bathrooms.

EXTENSIVE LEVEL LAWNS AND SUR-
ROUNDING GROUNDS OF 21 ACRES,
particularly suitable for a religious Institution,
etc.

For further particulars apply to the Owner's Agents, JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (1,544)

BOURNEMOUTH

WILLIAM FOX, F.R.I.C.S., F.A.I.
E. STODDART FOX, F.R.I.C.S., F.A.I.
H. INSLEY FOX, F.R.I.C.S., F.A.I.

FOX & SONS

LAND AGENTS

BOURNEMOUTH—SOUTHAMPTON—BRIGHTON—WORTHING

SOUTHAMPTON

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T. BRIAN COX, F.R.I.C.S., F.A.I.
BRIGHTON
J. W. SYKES, F.A.L.P.A.

DEVONSHIRE

Between Tiverton and Bampton, situated 450 ft. up and commanding magnificent views over the Exe valley.

A CHOICE SMALL RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING ESTATE WITH GEORGIAN-STYLE RESIDENCE BUILT OF BATH STONE AND IN GOOD ORDER THROUGHOUT



7 principal bedrooms, 4 secondary bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, kitchen and complete domestic offices. Self-contained staff flat. Main electricity. Central heating. Entrance lodge. Stabling for 10 horses. Garage 4 cars. Beautiful undulating grounds including pleasure gardens, walled garden, orchards, woodlands, arable and pasture lands. The whole covering an area of

ABOUT 56 ACRES

**VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION OF THE PURCHASE
PRICE £15,000 FREEHOLD**

For particulars apply: Fox & Sons, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

MAYFIELD, SUSSEX

Occupying a choice situation 400 ft. above sea level and commanding superb views over the Sussex Weald, 1/2 mile from village church, shops and post office. Omnibus service to Tunbridge Wells, 9 miles, passes close by. London 44 miles.

THE ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL T.T. AND ATTESTED FARM COMPRISES AN EXCELLENT MODERN HOUSE WITH



6 bedrooms, bathroom, 4 reception rooms and kitchen, staff annexe of 3 rooms, bathroom and kitchen.

Main electricity and water. Double garage.

The charming gardens include terraced lawns and tree-lined ornamental lake. Greenhouse.

Excellent range of modern farmbuildings including cowstalls for 26, dairy, double Dutch barn, calf and bull pens.

The land is divided into well-fenced enclosures and comprises in all about 90 ACRES

**PRICE £23,000 FREEHOLD, OR NEAR OFFER
VACANT POSSESSION**

Apply: Fox & Sons, 117 and 118, Western Road, Brighton. Tel.: Hove 9201 (7 lines).

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX

Suitable for London business people.

Opportunity to acquire an excellent architect-designed residence of character occupying a pleasant position in the favourite residential district of Withdean, close to the main London Road and within easy walking distance of Preston Park Station.

"THE WARREN," 31, ELDRED AVENUE, WITHDEAN (Brighton 6).



Situate in a delightful wooded setting.

Accommodation: 4 bedrooms, fully tiled luxury bathroom, wide entrance hall with coat cupboard and cloakroom, lounge (22 ft. 6 in. x 14 ft.), dining room, excellent well-equipped domestic offices. Oak strip flooring throughout the ground floor. Garage.

Secluded garden.

VACANT POSSESSION

To be Sold by Auction at The Old Ship Hotel, Brighton, on Thursday, February 16, 1950, at 3 p.m. (unless previously sold privately).

Solicitors: Messrs. CARPENS, 30, Old Steine, Brighton. Auctioneers: Fox & Sons, 117 and 118, Western Road, Brighton. Tel. Hove 9201 (7 lines).

OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO A CITY BUSINESS MAN.

READING, BERKSHIRE

Only 45 minutes by rail to London, 4 miles Sonning, 14 miles from Ascot.

**THIS DELIGHTFULLY PLACED
RESIDENCE IN PERFECT CONDITION**

Situated on high ground and within easy reach of the centre of the town.

4 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS
CLOAKROOM, KITCHEN AND GOOD OFFICES.

ALL MAIN SERVICES. GARAGE.

SEVERAL SHEDS. SMALL GREENHOUSE.

Beautifully matured gardens and grounds including flower borders, lawns, rockery, productive kitchen garden, fruit trees, etc. The whole covering an area of about

4 ACRES. PRICE £7,500 FREEHOLD

For particulars apply: Fox & Sons, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.



HAMPSHIRE COAST

Occupying a gorgeous position with unobstructed sea views including The Needles, Isle of Wight, and the Solent.

**PROBABLY ONE OF THE MOST CHARMING SMALL PROPERTIES
ON THE SOUTH COAST, ABSOLUTELY UNIQUE IN DESIGN**

Constructed of brick with thatched roof and facing south. 4 bedrooms, box-room (suitable for second bathroom as all necessary plumbing has been done), bathroom, charming lounge 20 ft. x 16 ft. 3 in., dining hall, kitchenette. Excellent garage for 3 cars. All main services.

Garden of about 1/2 ACRE



PRICE £7,500 FREEHOLD

For particulars apply: Fox & Sons, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

WEST SUSSEX COAST

Main road position on outskirts of popular seaside resort.

SUITABLE FOR TEA ROOMS AND GARDENS, ANTIQUES, ETC.
(No Development Charge payable.)

CHARMING OLD SUSSEX COTTAGE

Built of flint with thatched roof and carefully modernised, standing well back from road with car parking facilities.

2 bedrooms, bathroom, dining room, tea lounge and sun parlour. Ladies' and gent's cloakrooms. Modern kitchen.

All main services.

Useful outbuildings.

Large walled garden with crazy paved terrace.



PRICE £4,000 FREEHOLD

Fox & Sons, 41, Chapel Road, Worthing. Tel.: Worthing 6120 (3 lines).

BOURNEMOUTH

1 1/2 miles from all amenities and the town centre. Having delightful uninterrupted marine and coastal views, and direct access to a beautiful chine and sandy bathing beach.

**A WELL-KNOWN MANSION NOW FORMING A DISTINCTIVE BLOCK
OF 16 SELF-CONTAINED LUXURY FLATS EQUIPPED ALMOST
REGARDLESS OF EXPENSE**

And with accommodation ranging from 2-5 well-appointed rooms exclusive of kitchen and bathroom. CENTRAL HEATING. LIFT.

Lock-up garages.

Hard tennis court.

ABOUT 4 ACRES
CHARMING GROUNDS.

PRICE £60,000

FREEHOLD

Or complete with all magnificent new furnishings and equipment, £80,000



VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION OF THE PURCHASE

Apply: Fox & Sons, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 6300 (6 lines).

Bournemouth 6300
(6 lines)

44-52 OLD CHRISTCHURCH ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH
(12 BRANCH OFFICES)

Telegrams:
"Homefinder," Bournemouth

ESTATE

KENington 1490

Telegrams:

"Estate, Harrods, London"

HARRODS

34-36, HANS CRESCENT, LONDON, S.W.1

OFFICES

Southampton
West Byfleet
and Haslemere

ONE OF THE FINEST SITUATIONS IN SURREY

On high ground, adjoining the Green Belt and convenient to Country Club.

CHARMING FREEHOLD RESIDENCE, DESIGNED BY AN ARCHITECT

Convenient to 'bus and about 4 miles Leatherhead.



3 reception rooms, 5/6 bedrooms, marble bathroom, also secondary bathroom. Electric light and modern conveniences. Garage 3 cars.

Suitable pleasure grounds, tennis and other lawns, specimen trees, kitchen garden, orchard, meadow and woodland.

IN ALL ABOUT 6½ ACRES
FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Inspected and recommended by the Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (Tel: KENington 1490. Extn. 807). c.3

For Sale privately or Auction Feb. 1 with or without the furniture and effects
LITTLE TESTWOOD HOUSE, TOTTON, NEAR SOUTHAMPTON



A CHARMING PERIOD RESIDENCE

lying well back from the main Southampton-Salisbury road, close to the River Test and New Forest, at present used as a Guest House and Country Club. Lounge hall, 3 reception and billiards room. 7 principal bedrooms (basins h. and c.), 5 secondary bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Main electric light, power and water. Central heating. Modern drainage. Cottage. Garages, 4.

Well timbered grounds and 3 enclosures of pasture. **ABOUT 13 ACRES FREEHOLD**
Solicitors: Messrs. PEARCE, HARFIELD & EMANUEL, 6, St. Michaels Street, Southampton. Auctioneers: HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (Tel: KENington 1490. Extn. 806) and HARRODS LTD. (incorporating Messrs. PRING AND CO.), 40, The Avenue, Southampton (Tel: 2171). c.4

SUNNY SOUTH DEVON COAST

Placed upon a headland, at the mouth of a river, with beautiful views of bay and golf course.

WELL-BUILT MODERN RESIDENCE

2 reception, 5 bed. (all fitted basins), 2 baths. Main water and electricity. Garage.

Economical garden of

ABOUT 1 ACRE

BARGAIN PRICE 5,000 GNS.

VACANT POSSESSION

Or with present contents, 6,000 gns.

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (Tel: KENington 1490. Extn. 809). c.2

WATERLOO 35 MINS. FRONTAGE TO RIVER WEY
A WELL APPOINTED LABOUR-SAVING RESIDENCE

In a quiet residential area only 5 minutes from buses and 1 mile from station.



3 reception rooms, 4 principal bedrooms and 3-4 secondary bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, main services. Automatic gas-fired central heating and hot water. Heated garages. Exceptionally delightful gardens with good frontage to River Wey and landing stage.

ABOUT 1¼ ACRES
FOR SALE FREEHOLD
POSSESSION

Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (Tel: KENington 1490. Extn. 806) and 8-9, Station Approach, West Byfleet (Tel: Byfleet 149), and Messrs. WILLIAMS HOUGHTON & SONS, 9, Idol Lane, E.C.3 (Tel: M.A.N. 6947). c.4

CLOSE TO SURREY VILLAGE, ON FRINGE OF EXTENSIVE COMMONLANDS

A WELL-MAINTAINED COUNTRY RESIDENCE

Convenient for buses to Woking and Guildford.



Secluded grounds, drive approach. 6 bed., dressing room, 3 bath., 3 reception, garden, maid's sitting room.

Offices.

Garage for 2 cars.

Bungalow cottage.

Co.'s water and electricity.

ABOUT 2½ ACRES. £9,000 OR OFFER.

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (Tel: KENington 1490. Extn. 809), c.2, and at West Byfleet (Tel. 149).

SURREY AND SUSSEX BORDERS

Easy reach of main line station; easy access of London.

ATTRACTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE ON TWO FLOORS ONLY

with lounge hall, large reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, complete offices.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS.
USEFUL OUTBUILDINGS including a Games Room.

GARDEN HOUSE.
WORKSHOP AND STABLING.

All co.'s mains. Partial central heating.



ATTRACTIVE GROUNDS—inexpensive in upkeep.

IN ALL THREE ACRES
ONLY £9,000 FREEHOLD

Recommended by HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (Tel: KENington 1490. Extn. 806). c.4

SOUTH DOWNS

DISTINCTIVE RESIDENCE IN THE MARKET FOR THE FIRST TIME

Unrivalled situation with extensive views, convenient to old-world town.

Hall, 4 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, dressing room, 3 bathrooms.

Main drainage.

Co.'s electric light and water.

Entrance lodge.

Garage 3 cars.

Useful outbuildings.

Lovely gardens inexpensive to maintain.

Lawns, rockeries, woodlands.



IN ALL ABOUT 6 ACRES
FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Inspected and strongly recommended.

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (Tel: KENington 1490. Extn. 807). c.3

ONE HOUR LONDON

10 mins. station. 5 miles equi-distant two market towns.

HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL MODEL MARKET GARDEN AND FLOWER FARM OF ABOUT 7 ACRES

TWO RESIDENCES

Office. Ranges of heated greenhouses, with electricity-circulated hot water, giving about half an acre under heat. Packing sheds, etc., 5,500 cloches (about 3½ acres) and open cultivation. Established markets and contracts for flowers and produce. Main water and electricity for light, heat and power.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD, LOCK, STOCK AND BARREL POSSESSION

Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (Tel: KENington 1490. Extn. 809). c.2

GLOS.—WARWICK—OXON BORDERS

In delightful country, yet on a bus route to several well-known towns.

MELLOWED GEORGIAN STONE-BUILT HOUSE

4 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

2 garages. Stabling. Loose box, and fine barn.

Main water and electricity. Delightful but inexpensive gardens, and 2 paddocks.

IN ALL ABOUT 7 ACRES



FREEHOLD £9,000. VACANT POSSESSION

First-class order throughout.

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, S.W.1 (Tel: KENington 1490. Extn. 809). c.2

BUCKS AND HERTS BORDERS

Handy for Berkhamsted, Tring and Wendover. 800 ft. up with panoramic views over miles of Forestry Commission lands.

EXCELLENT REPLICA OF AN OLD FARMHOUSE

with lounge and sun lounge, 2 other reception rooms, 6 bed. and dressing rooms (h. and c.), 2 bathrooms, complete offices.

Double garage and outbuildings.

All companies' mains.

Partial central heating.

Beautiful terraced grounds, lawns, kitchen garden, paddock. **IN ALL 7 ACRES.**



£10,000 FREEHOLD. EARLY POSSESSION

Inspected and recommended by HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (Tel: KENington 1490. Extn. 806). c.4

TOTTENHAM COURT RD., W.1
(EUSon 7000)

MAPLE & Co., LTD.

5, GRAFTON ST., MAYFAIR, W.1
(REgent 4685)

KENT

Situate close to small old-world village near Maidstone.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD



THIS VERY NICE GEORGIAN HOUSE

having modern conveniences including main electricity. It has hall, drawing room, dining room, small study, 5 or 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, maids' sitting room, etc.

2 GARAGES.

EXCELLENT COTTAGE with 3 bedrooms.

Attractive garden of about 1 ACRE with walled kitchen garden, etc.

Close to well-known school for boys.

PRICE £5,900

Recommended by MAPLE & Co., 5, Grafton Street, W.1.

SURREY. ESHER

On the high ground with extensive view.

MODERN FARMHOUSE-STYLE RESIDENCE

With hall, cloakroom, 2 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, etc. Oak floors. MAIN SERVICES.

Garage.

Attractive gardens of about 2 ACRES

FREEHOLD TO BE SOLD

Agents: MAPLE & Co., LTD., 5, Grafton Street, W.1.

HERTFORDSHIRE

Unique position, commanding extensive views. Convenient for station and shops. 13 miles from Town, close to Potters Bar.

COUNTRY RESIDENCE

With lounge hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, billiards room, 6 bedrooms, tiled bathroom.

Brick-built garages (3 cars).

Staff flat of 4 rooms and bathroom.

Attractive gardens of about 3 ACRES with hard tennis court, etc.

FREEHOLD £10,500

Agents: MAPLE & Co., LTD., 5, Grafton Street, Mayfair, W.1.

MAIDENHEAD (Tel. 53 two lines)
SUNNINGDALE (Tel. Ascot 73)

BERKS AND SURREY BORDERS

In a rural position only 10 minutes from station.

A MODERN COUNTRY HOUSE

5 bedrooms (fitted with basins), 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, etc. Central heating. Main services. 2 garages. Easily maintained gardens with a small copse.

1 ACRE. FREEHOLD £6,500

GIDDY & GIDDY, Station Approach, Sunningdale (Tel.: Ascot 73).

IVER, BUCKS

With open views over Green Belt countryside.

AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE

4 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, etc. Main services. Useful outbuildings. Garden and orchard.

FREEHOLD £5,000

GIDDY & GIDDY, 3, Mackenzie Street, Slough (Tel. 23379).

WINDSOR

Overlooking the Park.

A REGENCY PERIOD HOUSE

3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, etc. Main services. Pleasant garden.

FREEHOLD £4,500

GIDDY & GIDDY, 52, High Street, Windsor (Tel. 73).

GIDDY & GIDDY

HOLYPORT, BERKS

Standing in walled grounds adjoining the village green.



A LOVELY EARLY GEORGIAN HOUSE

6 bedrooms (4 with basins), dressing room, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, etc.

CENTRAL HEATING. MAIN SERVICES.

GARAGES, etc.

6 ACRES. FREEHOLD

GIDDY & GIDDY, Station Approach, Maidenhead (Tel. 53).

WINDSOR (Tel. 73) SLOUGH (Tel. 23379 two lines)
GERRARDS CROSS (Tel. 3987)

BUCKS, Nr. BEACONSFIELD

Combining maximum comfort with minimum labour.

A SMALL MODERN HOUSE

5 bedrooms (all with basins), tiled bathroom, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, etc. Central heating. Main services. Garage. Well-kept garden.

FREEHOLD £5,500

GIDDY & GIDDY, Station Parade, Gerrards Cross (Tel. 3987).

BRAY, MAIDENHEAD

In a secluded position on high ground.

A PICTURESQUE TUDOR-STYLE HOUSE

4 bedrooms (2 with basins), bathroom, 2 reception rooms, cloakroom, etc. Central heating. Main services. 2 garages.

NEARLY 1 ACRE. FREEHOLD

GIDDY & GIDDY, Station Approach, Maidenhead (Tel. 53).

BURGH HEATH AND WALTON-ON-THE-HILL

600 ft. up, with rural views.

AN UNUSUAL MODERN RESIDENCE

4 bedrooms (fitted basins), 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, etc. Main services. 2 garages. Loose boxes.

3/4 ACRE. FREEHOLD

GIDDY & GIDDY, Station Approach, Sunningdale (Tel.: Ascot 73).

6, ASHLEY PLACE,
LONDON, S.W.1. (VIC 2981, 8004)
SALISBURY (2467-2468)

RAWLENCE & SQUAREY, F.R.I.C.S.

SHERBORNE, DORSET (597-598)
ROWNHAMS MOUNT, Nursling
SOUTHAMPTON (Rownhams 236)

SOUTH HANTS

About 3 miles from Christchurch and 6 from Bournemouth and Ringwood.

AN ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE

WITH SALMON FISHING IN RIVER AVON
(if required).

6 bed and dressing rooms, nurseries, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, gun room, usual domestic offices, also self-contained staff flat (with bathroom) for married couple.

WALLED GARDEN AND GROUNDS.

Tennis court and paddock.

IN ALL ABOUT 3 1/2 ACRES

MAIN WATER, GAS AND ELECTRICITY.

TO BE LET UNFURNISHED ON LEASE

Apply: RAWLENCE & SQUAREY, Salisbury.

SAVERNAKE FOREST

Near Marlborough

TO BE LET UNFURNISHED ON LEASE

AN ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY RESIDENCE

Comprising 4 principal and 3 secondary bedrooms (all principal bedrooms have basins h. and c.), bathroom, 3 reception rooms.

GARAGE AND USEFUL OUTBUILDINGS.

Pleasant gardens and grounds of

ABOUT 6 ACRES

OWN ELECTRICITY. GOOD WATER SUPPLY.

LONG LEASE AVAILABLE

Apply: RAWLENCE & SQUAREY, Salisbury.

Wallington 2606
(4 lines)

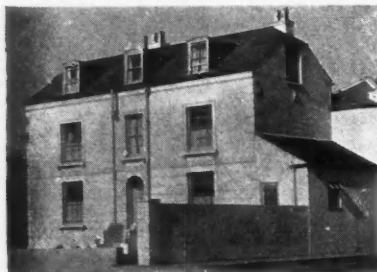
MOORE & CO.

CARSHALTON, SURREY

Auctioneers and
Surveyors

LOVELY POSITION ON KENT COAST

An interesting 17th-century residence in a quaint position close to the sea and good shopping centre. Easy walk station with frequent trains to London in about 90 minutes.



In excellent order and tastefully decorated throughout and containing:

4 double bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, half-tiled kitchen with domestic boiler etc., tiled bathroom, cloakroom with w.c.

Glass-panelled doors and other interesting features.

Offered with early possession at the reasonable price of

ONLY £2,900 FREEHOLD

Full details from Sole Agents: MOORE & Co., as above. (Folio 8736/44)

SIR FRANCIS PITTIS & SON

NEWPORT, SHANKLIN AND VENTNOR, I.O.W.

ISLE OF WIGHT

DELIGHTFUL GEORGIAN PERIOD RESIDENCE

in a beautiful rural setting near the south coast of the island and distinguished as "YAFFORD HOUSE," NEAR SHORWELL

3 RECEPTION (one 30 ft. x 20 ft.),
2 BATHROOMS, 6 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS,
2 STAFF BEDROOMS,
MODERNISED DOMESTIC OFFICES.

ALL MODERN SERVICES.

PART CENTRAL HEATING.

GROUND AND PADDOCK.



ABOUT 3 1/2 ACRES

PRICE ONLY £4,000. VACANT POSSESSION

Apply: FRANCIS PITTIS & SON, Chartered Surveyors, Newport, I.O.W.

41, BERKELEY SQ.,
LONDON, W.1. GRO. 3056

LOFTS & WARNER

Also at OXFORD,
and ANDOVER

IN THE BEAUTIFUL THAMES VALLEY

In a secluded position but within a few minutes' walk of main line station—London 80 minutes.

THE ATTRACTIVE FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

WODEN HOUSE, GORING, OXFORDSHIRE

Built of brick with tiled roof and comprising 11 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, billiards room, good offices with maids' sitting room.

Main electricity, gas and water.

GARAGE. STABLING. COTTAGE.

Very delightful gardens, tastefully laid out with lawns, lily ponds, rock garden; prolific kitchen garden with soft fruit cage and other fruit trees.

ABOUT 4½ ACRES

FOR SALE PRIVATELY OR BY AUCTION AT AN
EARLY DATE

Auctioneers: LOFTS & WARNER, 14, St. Giles, Oxford
(Tel. 2725), and as above.



BERKS—OXON BORDERS

In unspoilt village.



Lounge, dining room, 2 reception, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (3 other rooms let as separate flat).

MAIN WATER, ELECTRICITY AND GAS.

Charming garden sloping to the river bank.

16th-CENTURY BARN CONVERTED INTO COTTAGE
with large sitting room, 2 bedrooms and bathroom.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION

Joint Sole Agents: LOFTS & WARNER, 14, St. Giles, Oxford (Tel. 2725), and as above, and KNIGHT, FRANK AND RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1 (MAYfair 3771).

AN OPPORTUNITY NOT TO BE MISSED.

HAMPTON COURT

Adjoining the Royal paddocks. 1½ miles from Kingston-upon-Thames. Only 30 minutes by train to Waterloo.



SMALL QUEEN ANNE HOUSE IN RURAL SURROUNDINGS

Hall, 2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms (3 with basins), bathroom, large cellars.

Garage. Main services.

A charming walled garden.

The whole is in excellent repair and ready for immediate occupation.

For Sale Freehold. Only £26,500 (subject to contract).

WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Sole Agents: LOFTS & WARNER, as above.

OXFORDSHIRE

9 miles from Oxford, 1½ miles from main line station.



A CHARMING STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE

Situated in an elevated position with
superb views over surrounding country.

Entrance hall, 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom good offices. Main electricity and water. Delightful walled garden and orchards, IN ALL ABOUT ¾ ACRE.

Garage, stables and outbuildings.

WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Freehold for Sale, privately or by Auction, at an
early date.

Auctioneers: LOFTS & WARNER, 14, St. Giles, Oxford
(Tel. 2725), and as above.

56, BAKER STREET,
LONDON, W.1

DRUCE & Co., Ltd.

ESTABLISHED 1822
Weibek 4485 (20 lines)

AMERSHAM, BUCKS

CHARMING FREEHOLD DETACHED COUNTRY RESIDENCE

Situated in a pleasant country lane, and standing in about 1 acre of ground.



Lounge hall with cloak-room, sitting room and study communicating, dining room, domestic offices, 5 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms.

1 ACRE

of delightful grounds, very well laid out, with lawns, flower beds, fruit trees, etc.

Space for tennis court. Large garage.
CENTRAL HEATING THROUGHOUT.

PRICE £28,500 FREEHOLD

C.2023.

RAMSGATE

The excellently situated and well arranged

FREEHOLD MARINE RESIDENCE

of ultra-modern design, and occupying one of the most delightful positions on the S.E. coast. The property, which faces south with an uninterrupted view of the sea, is rendered in white "Snow-Cem" and contains: entrance hall, breakfast room, lounge with 44-ft. heated sun lounge, study, dining room, gentleman's cloakroom, domestic offices, 6 bedrooms, luxury bathroom, sun roof. Delightful walled gardens with lawns, flower beds, kitchen garden and fruit trees. Garage. Central heating. Gas and power points. Eminently suitable for an exclusive guest house.

PRICE £10,000 FREEHOLD

C.2034.

FRINTON-ON-SEA

DETACHED DOUBLE-FRONTED FREEHOLD MARINE RESIDENCE

Situated on the Esplanade facing sea within a few minutes walk of golf and tennis clubs.

3 reception rooms, 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, domestic offices. Beach hut.

THE PROPERTY IS VERY SUITABLE FOR USE AS A GUEST HOUSE.

PRICE £7,000 FREEHOLD

C.2019.

THE ESTATE HOUSE
KING STREET
MAIDENHEAD

CYRIL JONES & CLIFTON, F.A.I.

Maidenhead
2033-4

300 FEET UP IN THE CHILTERN

Above Marlow.



DISTINCTIVE RESIDENCE, with 6-8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, galleried hall, 3 reception. **DOUBLE GARAGE. 9 ACRES**, mainly woodland.

Freehold for Sale privately or by Auction on Jan. 25.

Auctioneers: CYRIL JONES & CLIFTON, F.A.I., as above.

MAIDENHEAD

With gate to golf links.

DELIGHTFUL RESIDENCE

With 6 bedrooms (basins), bathroom, 3 reception, billiard room.

Double garage.

Central heat.

Delightful garden of 1 acre, with hard court.

For Sale privately or by Auction on January 25.

Auctioneers: CYRIL JONES & CLIFTON, F.A.I., as above.

COOKHAM DEAN

CHARACTER HOUSE

With 6 bedrooms, 2 baths., 2 reception, lounge hall.

Garages.

1½ ACRES

Over 300 ft. up.

For Sale privately or by Auction on January 25.

Auctioneers: CYRIL JONES & CLIFTON, F.A.I., as above.

MAIDENHEAD THICKET

Protected for all time by the National Trust.



6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception (one 25 ft. x 25 ft.).

Janitor central heat. Garage, stable and cottage.

ABOUT 1¼ ACRES, WITH POSSESSION

BARGAIN PRICE £25,500

Agents: CYRIL JONES & CLIFTON, F.A.I., as above.

OXFORD
4637/8**JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK**

OXFORD AND CHIPPING NORTON

CHIPPING
NORTON
39*By order of Executors: early sale required.***NORTH OXFORDSHIRE***Banbury 4 miles.***A VERY CHARMING OLD STONE-BUILT HOUSE**

part 14th century and containing many original features), modernised and in good order throughout.



Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 7 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, good attic bedrooms or stores. Main electric light, ample water supply (main available), main drainage, central heating throughout. Excellent garaging and stabling, together with very fine tithe barn. Garden and paddock, in all about **2½ ACRES**. Two cottages available, if desired.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD**WITH VACANT POSSESSION OF THE WHOLE.**

Strongly recommended by the Sole Agents (Oxford and Chipping Norton offices).

NORTHANTS*Banbury, Northampton and Buckingham all about 12 miles equidistant.***A SPLENDID SMALL RESIDENTIAL AGRICULTURAL ESTATE**

Pleasing modernised stone-built and slated Residence, in good order, containing 3 reception rooms, 5-6 principal bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms and 2 staff bedrooms. Main electric light and power. Excellent water supply pumped by electricity.

Modern drainage system.

Bailliff's house and excellent service cottage.

Fine stone-built and slated buildings, including modern T.T. cowshed for 20. The land, which lies compactly together within a ring fence, extends to about

100 ACRES**VACANT POSSESSION OF WHOLE.****FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

(Could be purchased lock, stock and barrel, to include valuable herd of pedigree and grading register T.T. Dairy Shorthorn cattle.)

Recommended by Oxford office.

BERKSHIRE*Within easy access of the Downs and of the river and daily rail service of London.***A DELIGHTFUL LITTLE MODERNISED TUDOR HOUSE IN PERFECT ORDER**

Constructed of brick, colour-washed pink, with tiled roof, and containing briefly: 2 attractive sitting rooms, small study, 3 bedrooms, good attic bedroom and bathroom. Main electric light and water supply.

Telephone. Good garage. Very pretty garden, orchard and paddock.

IN ALL ABOUT 1½ ACRES**FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION**

Recommended by the Sole Agents (Oxford office).

BUCKS-BEDS BORDER*London 55 miles.***A FINE T.T. ATTESTED RESIDENTIAL DAIRY FARM****Stone-built and slated 17th-Century House**

Containing 2 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms and bathroom. Electric light. Main water supply. Aga cooker. Good buildings, including milking parlour for six. 3 cottages.

Well watered land, in a ring fence, in all about **137 ACRES****FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH EARLY POSSESSION**

Recommended by Oxford office.

An attractive Private House, or would be suitable for use as a small School, Convalescent Home, etc.

OXON-BUCKS BORDERS*London 55 miles.***A LOVELY OLD STONE-BUILT QUEEN ANNE AND GEORGIAN HOUSE**

with beautifully proportioned rooms, enjoying delightful views across timbered park-like land to the distant Chiltern Hills. Briefly, the accommodation comprises:

Entrance and dining halls, 3 reception rooms, modern domestic offices, 10 or 11 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, good attic bedrooms or stores. Main electric light and power. Excellent water supply. Central heating throughout. Garaging and first-class stabling. 2 modern cottages. Lovely gardens, walled kitchen garden, arable and pastureland, in all about

32 ACRES

(or would be sold excluding cottages and with a few acres only).

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Recommended by Oxford office.

R. B. TAYLOR & SONS16, PRINCES STREET, YEovil. Tel. 817-8.
ALSO AT SHERBORNE AND BRIDGWATER.**SOUTH EAST DEVON***2 miles from the sea.***A DISTINCTIVE MODERN COUNTRY RESIDENCE**

Hall, 3 reception, 7/8 bedrooms.

2 bathrooms.

Excellent domestic offices. Company's electricity and water.

Garages and chauffeur's flat.

Attractive gardens sloping to river with trout fishing.

5 ACRES IN ALL**PRICE £7,850 LEASEHOLD (63 YEARS UNEXPIRED)**

Sole Agents: R. B. TAYLOR & SONS, as above.

WALLIS, RIDDETT & CO.

TOWN HALL CHAMBERS, RYDE. Tel. 2255-6.

ISLE OF WIGHT**STONE-BUILT COUNTRY RECTORY***Close main town, sea, boat and train services.*

3 SITTING ROOMS.

6 BEDROOMS.

2 BATHROOMS.

GARAGES.

PET HOUSES.

COTTAGE.

ALL SERVICES.

SIX ACRES**FREEHOLD. POSSESSION**

Price and particulars: WALLIS, RIDDETT & CO., Town Hall Chambers, Ryde. Tel. 2255-6.

HOUSE & SON,

LANSDOWNE HOUSE, CHRISTCHURCH ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH (Tel. 6232)

NEAR BROCKENHURST, HANTS**EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE THATCHED COTTAGE-TYPE RESIDENCE****EXCELLENT DECORATIVE ORDER; SECLUDED; 7 ACRES GROUND**

Entrance hall, cloakroom, 2 receptions, billiards room, kitchen, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, etc.

Extensive range outbuildings comprising SMALL COTTAGE, STABLES, GARAGES, etc.

Forest rights.

Main water, own electricity, modern drainage.

**£9,500 FREEHOLD OR OFFER**

Apply HOUSE & SON, Lansdowne House, Chris church Rd., Bournemouth, (Tel. 6232)

38, HIGH STREET,
ASHFORD, KENT**SCOTT & KENDON**Telephone:
Ashford 42**ASHFORD, KENT***In a well-known village about 5 miles equi-distant from Ashford and Hythe in high open position on south slope.***A CHARMING, SMALL OLD-WORLD RESIDENCE**

fully modernised, conveniently planned and in excellent order.

3 bedrooms, bathroom, hall and cloakroom, lounge, dining room, sitting room and kitchen, all on two floors. Electricity throughout. 2 garages, greenhouse and other outbuildings. Large kitchen and pleasure gardens with stream and fish pool. Revolving summer house. Grounds in all

JUST OVER 2 ACRES

The property is offered for sale.

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

ESTATE OFFICES.
GODALMING (Tel. 2)

H. B. BAVERSTOCK & SON

4, CASTLE STREET,
FARNHAM (Tel. 5274)

SURREY—HAMPSHIRE BORDERS

On the outskirts of Farnham. 10 miles from Guildford. 38 miles from London. In the Valley of the Wey.

THE HISTORIC FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE WAVERLEY ABBEY, FARNHAM

THE IMPOSING GEORGIAN MANSION

containing upwards of 20 bedrooms, 8 reception rooms, 4 bathrooms. Offices. Out-buildings.

Waverley Mill Farm (let).

The historic Cistercian Abbey ruins.

TWO SMALLHOLDINGS (ONE WITH POSSESSION).



Cottages. Walled kitchen garden. Cleared woodland.

The well-known Black Lake.

Areas of pasture, arable and heath land, underlying part of which are believed to be valuable gravel deposits.

IN ALL ABOUT 480 ACRES

Long frontage to River Wey.

For Sale by Auction as a whole or in lots (unless previously sold) at an early date.

Particulars and plan (price 5/-) in due course of the Auctioneers, as above, or of Messrs. ROLAND HINXMAN & SON, Alresford (Tel. 274)

SEVENOAKS 2247-8-9
TUNBRIDGE WELLS 46
OXTED 240
REIGATE 2938 & 3793

IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO.

SEVENOAKS, KENT
TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT
OXTED, SURREY
REIGATE, SURREY

SURREY

1 mile station, 19 miles London.



ELIGIBLE MODERN HOUSE

Magnificent position, due south aspect. 450 ft. a.s.l. 5-8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms. Cottage. 2 garages.

7 ACRES

Central heating. All main services.

FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION

Recommended: IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO., 47, High Street, Reigate (Tel: 2938 and 3793).

20 MILES FROM LONDON

750 ft. up. Delightful surroundings.



SMALL MODERN HOUSE

5 bedrooms (basins), 2 bathrooms, 3 reception, maids' sitting room and usual offices. Main water and electricity. Central heating.

Cottage. Garage for 2. Gardens, pasture, arable and woodland.

11½ ACRES

FREEHOLD £28,950

Owner's Agents: IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO., 125, High Street, Sevenoaks (Tel: 2247).

DORMANS, MAYFIELD, SUSSEX

High up, enjoying glorious views, 7 miles Tunbridge Wells.



CHARMING COTTAGE-STYLE RESIDENCE

3-4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, ultra-modern kitchen. Garage.

HALF AN ACRE

VACANT POSSESSION

PRIVATELY OR BY AUCTION FEBRUARY 10
Illustrated particulars from IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD AND CO., 7, London Road, Tunbridge Wells (Tel. 46).

HALL PAIN & FOSTER

WEST SUSSEX DOWNS

In a fine position 300 feet up. 8 miles Chichester or Petersfield with fast electric trains to Victoria and Waterloo.

CHOICE XVIIIth-CENTURY RESIDENCE

Originally a farmhouse in the Queen Anne period, now thoroughly modernised and extended into an ideal Family Residence in first-class order throughout.

Principal and secondary staircases.

Entrance hall, cloakroom, 6 bedrooms.

3 bathrooms.

Charming dining room, magnificent lounge, splendid games room.



Excellent domestic offices (with "Aga").

CENTRAL HEATING THROUGHOUT.

OWN ELECTRICITY PLANT.

GARAGE 46 ft. x 16 ft.

with excellent outbuilding suitable for conversion into a cottage.

Gardens and grounds including tennis lawn, flower gardens, orchard and kitchen gardens.

VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION. £9,000 FREEHOLD

Full particulars from the Sole Agents: HALL, PAIN & FOSTER, 57, Commercial Road, Portsmouth (Tel. 74441-2-3), and at Southsea, Petersfield and Fareham, Hampshire.

Telephone:
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4928-3404.

DOUGLAS KERSHAW & CO.,

12, Hanover Street, Hanover Square, W.1.

Telegrams:
Kershalas,
Wesdo, London

FURNACE MILL, COWDEN, KENT

On the Kent-Sussex borders. 2½ miles from Cowden Station with fast trains to London within the hour, and 5 miles from East Grinstead.

UNIQUE COUNTRY HOUSE

completely modernised.

4 principal bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms, domestic offices, with self contained servants' quarters. In excellent order.

CENTRAL HEATING THROUGHOUT. MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY'S WATER.

STABLING, GARAGES AND 2 EXCELLENT COTTAGES.

MODERNISED OAST HOUSE providing for ballroom or games room.

Extensive grounds containing paddock, lake and stream. Good fishing, boating and duck shooting.

THE WHOLE EXTENDING TO ABOUT 35 ACRES

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Vol. CVII No. 2765

JANUARY 13, 1950



Pearl Freeman

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COUNTRY LIFE

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ADVERTISEMENT AND
PUBLISHING OFFICES:
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LAND MISUSE

IT is an excellent thing that Professor Dudley Stamp, in spite of official disavowals, should continue to point out the paramount national value of good agricultural land to the nation and the tendency of our modern urbanising planners to take the best land in ever-increasing amount. Dr. Stamp recognises that there are many legitimate competitors besides agriculture for many areas of the land—industry, housing, recreation, transport, and defence, for example. But for really first-class farming land there should be no possibility of competition whatever. Modern planners take the line that for the lay-out and development of a new town, land which can be most easily developed is flat or gently undulating and well-drained, possessing exactly the essentials, in fact, of the best farming land. Yet when we look back at the work of the old planners of cities and towns—if we turn, as Dr. Stamp urges us, to Bath or Durham or Tunbridge Wells, or even to such comparatively modern development as Bournville—we find that they are all attractive places to live in just because the developers have made full use of what would to-day be regarded as almost impossible sites. Dr. Stamp would have us use some of the many similar sites of no agricultural value which would in the long run afford us much more attractive towns than we can ever hope to get from the monotonous garden city type of lay-out or the suburbs which have engulfed London's once marvellous areas of market garden.

It is, of course, always alleged that the last word on sites proposed in good agricultural country for new towns and urban extensions lies with the Ministry of Agriculture, and it is certainly true that in the London area several outstanding agricultural sites have been abandoned owing to opposition which probably owed its origin more to aggrieved farmers than to a horrified Ministry. But much other good agricultural land has been taken, and is likely to be taken, so long as what Dr. Stamp describes as the growth of our urban mentality persists. "The deification of an urban way of life, the conception of a standard of living in terms of refrigerators, motor-cars and wireless. . . . We must, somehow, secure a more balanced viewpoint." How is it to be done? Unfortunately, many of those most concerned, according to Dr. Stamp, are strangers to the problems of the countryside. The planning officers and their staffs appointed under the Town and Country Planning Act of 1947, to draw up outline Plans, have absorbed with their training an urban outlook. Though they have, Dr. Stamp would say, an innate fund of goodwill towards the countryside, he doubts whether they have the necessary knowledge and understanding. The Agricultural

Land Service of the Ministry of Agriculture is left to watch the interests of the countryside, to uphold the rural point of view in the planning world, and to secure the facilities for the all-important business of food production. Is it significant that they are generally regarded as the enemies of "good planning"?

Some really good agricultural land lies within the confines of the National Parks which are to be, and in these areas it is intended, we have been told many times, to maintain its agricultural use against all comers. This will save it from development, but unfortunately a great deal more of the finest land lies outside the parks than in them. Would it not be

which functions as a sort of tourist department of the Board. It remains an independent organisation while disposing of five-sixths of the Board's expenditure and providing only one-fifth of the total income by the sale of publications and from voluntary subscriptions. There are obvious opportunities here for duplication of activities, and the Select Committee finds overlapping rife as between these two corporations, Government departments, voluntary bodies and associations, and the tourist and catering trade itself. Some of the Board's activities are obviously useless in any case: an organisation maintained, for instance, to press on Government departments the need for relaxing their own regulations so as to assist the tourist traffic. The circularising of holiday organisations with particulars of unwanted requisitioned properties is another piece of official stupidity. A reorganisation of the whole business of looking after tourists is now promised; but waste will go on, however much reorganisation there may be, so long as unlimited Government money is there to fall back on.

MORE EGGS

MILD days have suited the hens, and egg production this winter shows a marked increase. Packing stations report that they are handling 60 per cent. more eggs than a year ago. This certainly suits the poultry farmer, and the housewife can at this rate look forward to plenty of eggs when spring really comes and the hens are in their natural flush of production. The producers' price will have been sharply reduced by then; 5s. 6d. a dozen is the mid-winter price fixed by the Ministry of Food which, balanced with a spring price of perhaps 3s. a dozen or less, is to make an average of 4s. 1d. a dozen over the year. This is the guaranteed price for the current year, but no one can say how the poultry farmer will fare in the February Price Review. He faces the certainty of much higher prices for laying mash when the feeding-stuffs subsidy goes, and the possibility that he will be expected to bear the brunt of the loss. The housewife now buys eggs at 3d. each, and this again is a subsidised price to the extent of 1½d. Surely the time has come in the case of home-produced eggs to allow supply and demand to rule the market, relying only on a floor price to meet the price guarantees given in the Agriculture Act.

TOAST

EXPORTERS have been advised that it is useless to send toast-racks to America because Americans do not use racks but serve their toast in napkins. The hint recalls an incidental gibe that appeared in an American travel magazine some years before the war in an article about the Cotswolds: "that English delicacy, stone-cold toast." At least one American visitor had apparently been misled by an equivocation, in the logician's sense of the word. He did not understand (what every Englishman knows) that "toast," unqualified, can mean two quite different things. It may mean breakfast toast, cold, dry and crisp—and suitable for the most dyspeptic. One English authority is so insistent on the need for dryness that he prescribes bread two days old and toasting "patiently at some little distance from a clear fire till slightly coloured on both sides . . . then pass a sharp knife horizontally through the soft centre part, to make two pieces of each slice"—whose inner sides should be toasted as before. When such toast as this is eaten with butter and marmalade the three flavours, though enjoyed together, should be distinct on the palate as three voices in Turanian polyphony in the ear. But "toast" can of course also mean toast buttered while it is hot, and kept hot in a muffin dish where butter and toast blend into a rather soggy, very indigestible yet wholly delicious harmony—at tea-time. American toast is hot and unbuttered—a Transatlantic version of France's hot rolls—and the aim is to keep the steam in rather than to let it out, which is the function of a rack. The possibilities of inter-continental misunderstanding through this equivocal word "toast" are such that the Travel Association might take official notice of it.

GEMINI

THE Great Twin Brethren slope across the sky
In ordered march, as for a million years.
I watch them from my bed, while night goes by
Bringing but open eyes and crawling fears.
What do Gemelli in that darkest hour?
Horse-taming Castor, girdled with high pride,
Pollux the boxer, glorious in power,
Strong arms a-swing, and dancing feet a-glide?
Does he bid great Orion cast away
Glittering belt and sword to fight him fair,
Man against man, fist against fist, while sway
The tides of battle in the frosty air?
Into the chariot bright does Castor leap,
Hurling the Charioteer adown the dark,
Urging the stallions in delirious sweep
Athwart the swinging stars without a mark?
Mayhap. To-morrow night, serene and still
I hope they'll glance across my window sill.

GEOFFREY HOLDSWORTH.

possible to select the best of such areas—the facts about them are perfectly well known—and secure them from development and change of use by giving a power of veto to, say, the Agricultural Commissioners? The authority, whatever it was, would have to consider the inherent qualities of the land and its potential productivity, of course, rather than its present output. In this matter it is no use thinking in terms of the land's so-called value in the open market, but rather of its ultimate value as part of the national capital.

REFINEMENT BY ORDER

BECAUSE, according to a news item, tenants of some Swale, Kent, rural council houses have used "vivid wallpapers," they will, in future, have to submit wallpaper designs for council approval. "The council have had to spend a considerable sum to get rid of some of the weird and vivid designs," the surveyor is quoted as saying. The implications of this little ukase on personal tastes are so sinister because, of course, it is Government policy that we should all be tenants of the State. The same problem—the cost to the landlord of eradicating A's taste to suit B's—may well commend itself to every council, and consequently the liberty of the individual to adorn even his privacy to suit him or herself be subjected to a censor, not of taste, but of the cost of defacement. This is bad enough as politics, yet it also presages the compulsory elimination of all lively colours or any strong pattern from the internal decoration of the nation's homes and their enforced replacement with universal beige. People's taste in wallpapers is sometimes, admittedly, highly individual. But better that than it should be the district surveyor's, and colour be sicklied o'er with the pale cast of municipal refinement.

THE TOURIST BOARD

THE Select Committee on Estimates performs a most useful service in exposing the more flagrant cases of public waste due to too much enthusiastic improvisation in too many quarters. The aims of the British Tourist and Holidays Board are unexceptionable and their objects of great national importance in these days. So, too, are those of the Travel Association,



P. G. Luck

THE OLD BRIDGE ACROSS THE RIVER ADUR AT SHOREHAM, SUSSEX

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By

Major C. S. JARVIS

AMONG the many foreign fruits that came to this country to help us out with our food-stuffs at Christmas-time were a great number of coconuts, and I imagine that all over England great tits and blue tits are most grateful to Mr. Strachey for thinking of their requirements at a time when anything connected with nuts must have been most distasteful to him. It is now ten long years since the halves of a coconut hung on strings over our birds' breakfast-table, and when after this long period the favourite tit food-stuff once again made its appearance in the same old spot, there was some stir among the regular attendants, for in the bird-world an unfamiliar object that is suspended in the air and swings in the breeze is regarded as something in the nature of a trap.

* * *

FOR some minutes the assembled tits in the neighbouring apple and birch trees regarded the swinging shells with their white interiors suspiciously, and then one by one they came down to the table to eat the scraps lying there, but kept a watchful and nervous eye all the time on the queer-shaped things that were dangling overhead. Not one bird ventured to alight on the coconut, however, until the oldest member of the breakfast-table club put in a belated appearance. This is a very shabby old blue tit whom we believe to be a cock, and who was the first to start the now universal habit of sitting down squarely to meals. He is easily recognisable because his colouring is so faded with age that there is no hint of blue on him, for the old fellow is as grey as a badger, and, owing to his habit of constantly squatting on his hind-quarters, his tail and the seat of his trousers are very part-worn.

The old fellow took one glance aloft at the split coconuts with a puzzled look in his eyes, and then this suddenly changed to a raptured flash of recognition. Without the slightest hesitation he flew aloft and alighted on one of

the halves with an excited twitter that probably said: "Bless my soul, we are back to coconuts again after all these years without a fat ration." Then came a sustained series of rapid pecks that sounded like a machine-gun firing a burst in the far distance, and after a pause during which he swallowed the mouthful he twittered to the assembled members of his family on the table below: "If you don't know what a coconut is, ask your dad."

* * *

SINCE then the coconuts have never been without an occupant, and sometimes two, for all the hours of daylight, and the white kernel in each half has now shrunk to a small ragged fragment in the far corner. One of the many correspondents who have written to me about the now almost universal topic of blue tit depredations suggested that the reason why this bird has started to damage household fittings is that during the last few years of food shortage it has been deprived of its usual fat ration, and is trying to find a substitute. In the days before paper was torn off the walls and the putty pecked from window frames most people who maintained birds' food tables saw to it that there was a constant supply of coconuts, and when these were unobtainable hung up lumps of suet, a ham bone or some bacon rind. Nobody has been able to supply the tits with fat during these recent lean years and the birds have been making up the deficiency by taking the law into their own hands.

* * *

WHILE looking at some old Dorset cob cottages the other day which, despite the natural snugness of the interiors, local authorities with modern ideas would probably condemn

if other accommodation were available, I was reminded of the extent to which cob, or the alternative, sun-dried mud brick, is used all over the continent of Africa and in many parts of Asia. One of my recollections of the South African War is of a labour gang of Kaffirs, under a British non-commissioned officer who was a builder in civil life, carrying out a rush order for half a dozen new hospital wards for the ever-increasing number of enteric cases that were coming in from the columns on the veld. The wards were built in an amazingly short time according to European blue prints, but the materials used were local African, the walls being of cob and wattle, with apertures left for European-pattern windows and doors, and the roofs of reed and grass thatch from the near-by marshes. In various other parts of Africa I have seen the local native method of building with the natural soil used for the construction of police posts, rest-houses and private residences, and for twenty years of my service in the Middle East I lived in most comfortable, and almost palatial, houses built of sun-dried mud brick.

* * *

WHEN one reads of the dissatisfaction and confusion that exist in connection with the Tanganyika ground-nut scheme, one gathers that a main cause of complaint by the staff is that insufficient accommodation has been provided for them. One explanation of this may be that the local tribesmen of Tanganyika differ from those of all other parts of Africa; otherwise, with a modicum of supervision under a few capable overseers, cob, or mud-brick bungalows would have sprung up like mushrooms, and there would have been no need to import pre-fabs, or build houses of green wood from recently-felled trees, which sounds a most unsuitable material for a tropical climate. On the other hand, one can easily imagine a London-bred official, with no knowledge of

Africa and the African way of life, running a blue pencil through a scheme suggesting the building of staff bungalows with mud.

* * *

I HAVE frequently seen dogs taking an interest in football when it is being played on a village green, and invariably they watch the game from a distinctly personal point of view. One of my canine acquaintances is a French poodle, and my experiences with members of this breed cause me to think that they study the doings of their own particular human beings rather more closely than do British dogs, and seem to grasp in all its details the technique of the English way of life.

I saw this French poodle recently at a rugby match, which he was not attending as a fan or because he took any interest in the ball as a possible plaything for dogs, but solely to watch the prowess of a member of his family, his mistress's son, who was taking part in the game. I do not think the poodle was particularly interested in the progress of the match or its ultimate result, but he was very deeply concerned that his *protégé* should have his fair share, or possibly rather more than his fair share, of

the game. Whenever the boy got the ball and started to run down the field with it the poodle let out a shrill yell of encouragement, and these yells increased in volume as the youth neared his opponents' goal. When, as so often happens on these occasions, the run ended in a tackle by one of the backs of the opposing side, the poodle raised his voice in a long agonised howl, which sounded very much like the word "foul."

* * *

IT is something of a coincidence that, while I was pondering over the problem of how the Egyptians disposed of the enormous ramp of earth and sand they piled up when building the Pyramids, to which I referred in last week's Notes, I obtained a copy of *Sand and Gravel* (Ministry of Town and Country Planning), which contains a most cheerful chapter in the book entitled *The After Treatment of Gravel Pits*. In this the optimistic author deals with the filling in of these noxious eyesores in such a light-hearted manner that one feels he had recently returned from Egypt, and had in his mind's eye a Pyramid-builder's ramp standing in close proximity to every disused gravel pit in this country.

I FEEL convinced that the writer of this chapter, who drew an entrancing picture of sylvan glades and blue lagoons on the sites of old gravel pits, cannot have seen the state of affairs in this part of the country, where, in the middle of a building site, there are some hundred or more acres of stagnant ponds, from fifteen to thirty feet deep, that no ramp in existence could fill. The only ramp that figured in connection with these old pits in the past was that by which the extracting company signed an agreement to replace all top soil, make good all damage to hedgerows and plant trees and shrubs everywhere, and then, as it neared the end of the gravel deposit, sold the pit to a newly formed company which promptly went bankrupt. Incidentally, the author of *Sand and Gravel* has some inkling of this state of affairs, but, after touching briefly on the distasteful subject, states "the issues this raises are complex and we feel that it is not within our province to pursue them too far." In other words, the Ministry of Town and Country Planning, having permitted the extraction of gravel without consulting the local authorities, then hands them the baby to hold—and a very unpleasant, smelly baby it is.

FOUR LAKELAND PASSES

Written and Illustrated by W. A. POUCHER

TO walk over any of the Lakeland passes is always a delight, and since none of them attains a great altitude, the experience may be enjoyed by young and old alike. During the last 50 years they have all been trodden by legions of enthusiastic wayfarers, with the result that their tracks are now clearly defined, so that if the mist comes down to obscure the

route, there is little danger of losing one's way.

In the course of the last three decades, I have meandered over these attractive cols again and again, sometimes merely to enjoy their wild beauty, at others to climb them as the shortest approach to my mountain. Every one of the passes has its own special features and their summits reveal a singular aspect of

the mountain scene. I have often been asked to name the finest Lakeland pass, but to make such a choice would be invidious, because, apart from one's own particular taste in hill scenery, the appearance of each one changes so much with the weather, the atmosphere, and the lighting. To-day one of them may be steeped in seething cloud,



1.—GREAT END FROM THE HEAD OF BORROWDALE, CUMBERLAND. Sty Head goes through the gap in the skyline



2.—THE FIRST GLIMPSE OF WASDALE FROM THE SUMMIT OF STY HEAD. The mountain in the background is Yewbarrow



3.—PILLAR FELL FROM THE OLD PACKHORSE BRIDGE, WASDALE. Black Sail is in the gap on the right of the skyline



4.—THE GABLES AND KIRKFELL FROM THE POOL ABOVE BLACK SAIL. Boat Howe is the group of crags in shadow in the middle of the skyline

gloomy, cold, and uninteresting; to-morrow it may be drenched in sunlight, iridescent with beauty, entrancing from foot to summit, and so warm that one is tempted to linger here and there to admire the changing scene.

But when a stranger to Lakeland has only one day in which to explore the district, and asks me to suggest the finest walk, I have no hesitation in recommending the following four passes, because they penetrate the very heart of the district and unfold enticing glimpses of four famous and widely dissimilar dales. They are encompassed in the well-known round from Seatoller and are, in their order of approach: Sty Head, 1,600 ft., giving access to Wasdale Head, 6 miles; Black Sail, 1,800 ft., leading over into the head of Ennerdale, 3½ miles; Scarf Gap, 1,400 ft., connecting this lonely valley with Gatesgarth at the head of Buttermere, 2½ miles; Honister, 1,190 ft., leading back to Seatoller, 4 miles.

The total length of the walk is thus approximately 16 miles, which includes about 8,000 ft. of ascent and descent. It is just as easy to make this round from any of these dales, but it is better to take the walk in this direction because the climax is then always ahead, except in the last pass, where the retrospect from its crest reveals the precipitous front of Honister Crag at its best.

Anyone taking a holiday in Borrowdale, and staying in Keswick or any of the enchanting villages in this lovely valley, will have no difficulty in getting to Seatoller, because there are frequent buses down the dale. One cannot fail to be charmed by this hamlet, which nestles among the trees at the foot of Honister Pass, but as there is a long way to go, it is best to

leave one's admiration until one returns to it, since one may have to wait awhile in the evening for the bus that will take one back to one's hotel.

Turning aside from the main road, one enters the last stretches of Borrowdale, which is here hemmed in on either side by steep, crag-bound hills. The River Derwent flows along merrily on the left, and near the bridge across it there is a splendid prospect ahead, dominated by the lofty, gullied front of Great End and disclosing the beginnings of Sty Head in a gap on the right (Fig. 1).

The sequestered cottages of Seathwaite are soon encountered, whence a stony track meanders along the narrowing dale as far as Stockley Bridge. Here the first collar work of the day begins, with a sharp rise of some 400 ft. to the clump of conifers enclosing Taylor Gill, whose foamy fall is plainly heard on the right. Thereafter the track rises at a gentler angle, and with the infant Derwent now on the right, leads to a white footbridge which unfolds the Central Fells in all their glory, with Great End and Scafell Pikes on the left and Lingmell crowning the skyline on the right of a conspicuous dip. The shimmering surface of Sty Head Tarn shortly appears ahead, and the winding track rises beside it to the cairn on the summit of the pass.

At this point a maze of paths leads away in all directions: those on the right ascend the flanks of Great Gable; those on the left give access to the Scafells, Langdale and Eskdale by varied routes. Ahead rises the shapely, riven front of Lingmell, below which the twisting course of Piers Gill is clearly revealed as a deep ravine cutting into the lower slopes of the Pikes. Hereabouts there is no indication of the

surprise in store, but a few yards ahead, where the track skirts the rough crags of Gable with a sharp declivity on the left, one encounters the first prominent downhill cairn, and it is here that Wasdale Head is suddenly disclosed far below, with its conspicuous patterned fields and the white walls of its hotel given prominence by the contrasting greens and browns of its surroundings (Fig. 2).

Down and down one goes, with the interminable screes of Gable on the right and the rugged slopes of Lingwell on the left, which shortly bend away to yield glimpses of shining Wastwater and the sea far away to the west. On reaching level ground, one passes a clump of pines on the left, the first trees in the wilds of Wasdale, and then enters the farm of Burnthwaite. Those who are in a hurry may cut off a short distance by taking the path on the right of the farm, but it is worth while to follow the walled cart track ahead, which passes the beautiful church, hidden among the yews.

One may be tempted to loiter in this lonely dalehead, because its sombre and desolate surroundings vividly stir the emotions. Nature has been lavish in her gifts to English Lakeland, but nowhere else in this district has she fashioned a mountain whose beauty can compete with that of Great Gable. But time is pressing and one must begin the tramp along the floor of Mosedale as the prelude to Black Sail. Behind the Wastwater Hotel there is a fine packhorse bridge over the beck which should not be missed, and then the long climb begins (Fig. 3).

The track skirts the flanks of Kirkfell all the way to the summit of the pass, and as height is gained, there are splendid views on

the left which encompass the steep scree shoot of Dore Head, the rugged bastions of Red Pike, and the spacious sweep of Pillar Fell closing in the prospect on the right. After passing through the last gate, one joins Gatherstone Beck on the left, and it provides sweet music until one crosses it at Gatherstone Head. Here the col comes into view and is soon attained.

Looking round from the cairn, one is immediately impressed by the overwhelming uplift of the shattered crags of Kirkfell, but the lie of the land hereabouts is such that little else can be seen. It is, therefore, well worth while to mount the lower slopes of Looking Stead on the left, because they cradle a quiet pool, which is so placed that it makes a superb vantage point for the appraisal of the lofty ramparts immediately to the east of the pass. The two Gables are prominent on either side of Wind Gap, followed by Boat Howe, which is not well known for its rock climbs, and the vast bulk of Kirkfell (Fig. 4).

Now the route is downhill again, and it does not take long to reach the Black Sail Youth Hostel, which occupies the loneliest situation in the district. The work of the Forestry Commission is evident hereabouts and the conifers they planted some years ago have grown so rapidly that the aspect of Ennerdale has changed completely. No longer are the gullied slopes of Pillar and High Stile displayed on either hand as Nature made them; they are now hidden beneath a green canopy of regimented spruce, whose carpet extends westwards down the dale as far as the eye can see.

Leaving the Youth Hostel behind, one follows the cart road down the dale for a short distance, and takes the right fork, to mount

the track which rapidly rises to Scarf Gap. The retrospect from the lip of the pass is magnificent, and includes the Gables, Kirkfell and Pillar, with the famous rock displayed conspicuously below the latter's rounded summit. Near the crest of the pass there is an iron gate in good condition, standing aloof and forlorn as a reminder of the fence that once ran along the tops of these hills. The cairn is just beyond it and reveals ahead the striking serrated skyline of the Grasmoor fells. There is a feeling of immense anticipation on this windy spot, because one is about to approach Buttermere, whose beauty needs no emphasis from me.

The track bears to the left across the wilderness of stones littering the flanks of High Crag, and a glance to the right discloses the spacious floor of Warnscale Bottom, hemmed in on the left by the steep front of Fleetwith and on the right by Haystacks, whose thimble-like eminences are prominent. Then, quite suddenly, there is a flash of blue far below, which heralds the unfolding of Buttermere. Down and down one goes, with the shimmering lake increasing in size with every step and with the Grasmoor Fells completely dominating the scene (Fig. 5). There is a tremendous contrast between the quiet charm of the valley below and the great austerity of the two dales behind, and it seems incredible that Nature can have placed such dissimilar glens side by side and yet so near to each other. The checkered fields of Gatesgarth appear below and in a short time one is tramping across their spongy, green carpet.

On a hard-surfaced road again, one enters the lofty gates of the vast ravine of Honister. Fleetwith towers overhead on the right and

the riven slopes on the left form the southern flanks of Robinson and Hindscarth, which swing round to the right to culminate in Dale Head, the highest peak in this range of hills. The highway keeps the stream on the left, which it ultimately crosses by a sturdy stone bridge, and it is here that one should pause for a few moments to admire the stately retrospect. The Buttermere Fells stretch across the horizon, with High Stile crowning their middle, and are cupped by the slopes of the pass as in a saucer of green porcelain.

Hereafter the angle steepens. Honister Crag now towers overhead on the right and the rugged slopes of Dale Head fall gently on the left to merge with its shoulder at the col. Some stiff walking follows before one reaches the crest of the pass, and here again one should pause to admire the grand retrospect, which is dominated by the precipitous front of Honister Crag.

Beginning the last downhill tramp of the day, one is mildly surprised at the remarkable change in the prospect, for once the crest of the pass has been left behind, the scene opens out into soft, green, billowy moorland, with a glimpse of Borrowdale below, topped by the Watendlath Fells, and crowned by the lofty undulating skyline of the Helvellyn Range. Those who have made good time will wander slowly down when they reach the pretty cascades in Hause Gill, which chatters away gaily as it descends through the woods beside the road. Finally one reaches Seatoller, whose smoking chimneys and dainty cottages make a charming climax to this long and revealing walk over what are, to my mind, some of the most interesting Lakeland passes.



5—THE SCARF GAP TRACK, WHICH ENDS AT BUTTERMERE LAKE. Grasmoor dominates the background and there is a glimpse of Hassness among the trees beside the lake

IN PRAISE OF CONIFERS

Written and Illustrated by J. D. U. WARD

WHO, except foresters, ever says a good word for conifers? A world-famous scientist, commenting in the Press on land utilisation, makes no mention of the beauty or the utility of conifer forests but tilts at the planting of spruce 800 ft. up on a moor with a rainfall of 80 inches—where he would presumably prefer oak! A professor of history, having mentioned which trees grow on certain hills, slips in a qualifying parenthesis:—At least, they were there until the Forestry Commission came with their conifer plantations.

Several writers dislike conifers so much that they have apparently never learned to tell the commoner genera one from another. Breckland, complains one writer, has been turned into a kind of barracks yard for raising regiments of spruces, perpetually standing to attention and presenting arms. But there are relatively few spruces on the Brecks, whose soil and climate ask for pines, and it is the Scotch and Corsican pines that have been planted in greater quantities than any other tree.

This is an illustration of two very common elements in adverse criticisms of conifers and forests—ignorance and irresponsibility. People entirely ignorant of forestry think or feel themselves competent to damn forest policy or forest techniques. Yet they would not, for instance, think that the composition or performance of a string quartet could be usefully criticised by someone who could not read a score, was not accustomed to listening to chamber music, and knew nothing of the composer or the musical climate of his time.

The foundation of most irresponsible depreciations is simply "I dislike"; and the rationalisations of dislike produce some remarkable arguments. The following three have recently been seriously advanced. 1. Conifer plantations suppress whortleberry plants. (We value our whortleberries so highly that we allow the fruit on hundreds of acres to rot—while we import tubs of whortleberries from Scandinavia.) 2. Conifer plantations cause changes in the wild life.



"THE SCOTCH PINE WILL GROW INTO USEFUL TIMBER ON SITES WHERE THE OAK PRODUCES ONLY FIREWOOD"

(Left) PINE TREES IN THE SNOWDONIA NATIONAL FOREST PARK. The mountain just visible in the background is Moel Hebog

(Most cultivated crops do. Even wheat-fields have a different fauna from that of permanent pasture.) 3. Conifers make a spiky, zig-zag skyline—which seems to need no comment.

All the stated objections referred to areas where conifers would yield more and better timber than broad-leaved trees. Some conifers have been planted in places where no conifers should ever have been, except as nurses; and some conifers have been planted in places where other conifers should have been. On a certain estate in Oxfordshire there are masses of Scotch pine on deep loam which would grow (and has grown) good oak. On the edge of the Chilterns there are plantations of Sitka spruce whose sickly appearance proclaims their unhappiness. (Here a strong case might have been made for Scotch or Corsican pine. Indeed, is there much to be said for any of the spruces south-east of a Cambridge-Oxford line?)

Anyone who moves about and keeps his eyes open could soon give a list of errors such as these, and the list would include ill-sited plantations of European and Japanese larch, Norway spruce and Douglas fir. But these mistakes are not, or should not be, arguments against conifers any more than some people's bad driving or bad playing is an argument against the owning of a car or a piano. The Scotch pine or Sitka spruce that makes a man shudder in one place will in others (and these include sites where oak and beech produce only firewood) grow into useful timber.

Imagine a poor soil and an exposed site, at an elevation of 1,000 ft. From the nutrients of this poor soil oak and beech can make little or nothing. But one of the conifers will from the same nutrients make good pitprops and fencing stakes and possibly some saw timber. Which is the crop to grow? The fact that oak is the natural climax crop is scarcely relevant if the oak is no good: one might as well argue for crops of the poorest grasses and weeds instead of good pastures or meadows. Oak has a wonderful capacity for survival: though it will thrive only in good, deep soils, it will survive in most inhospitable places. Even such a character as thick bark, which helps it to outlive surface fires which would kill the thin-barked beech, contributes to its toughness and tenacity of life.

The idea of trees as producers of crops of timber



A "HAPPY INTEGRATION" OF FARM LAND, FOREST AND MOUNTAIN IN NORTH WALES. (Right) "CONIFERS CAN MAKE BOTH TIMBER AND BEAUTY OUT OF WASTES": SPRUCE AND DOUGLAS FIR IN A MERIONETH FOREST

appears to be alien to most people in this country. Last summer a writer on farming matters remarked: "there have been in England for as long as any man living can remember four men who regard food as something to buy for every one who regards food as something to sell, while modern voting power is overwhelmingly urban. Thus is the countryman at the political mercy of those who understand neither his circumstances nor his needs and who are, moreover, divided from him by economic interest." If this thought be transferred from agriculture to silviculture, might not the figures and words be changed roughly thus: "four hundred men who regard trees as something to look at for every one who regards timber as something to sell . . . "?

It would be neither fair nor desirable to expect most people to consider most trees as potential pieces of timber—as instruments for converting nutrients into the raw materials of floors and doors. But one should not wholly forget this aspect; nor should one blame either particular trees or particular tree-growers for providing timber. When a wheat crop is harvested, much beauty is destroyed; but bread is a necessity. The same argument holds good with trees and timber.

Some detractors of conifers display a disturbing disregard of facts. Nobody reading some of the attacks on modern conifer plantations and the contrasting eulogies of 18th-century landscape planting, for example, would ever guess that we had quadrupled our population in the last 150 years. No one would realise the increased importance of coal and iron, and the decreased importance of firewood. No one would imagine that we had during this time first risen to a condition of unrivalled opulence (when some luxuries could well be afforded) and later fallen almost into bankruptcy.

The country is now in the position of a man who, having in the past enjoyed spacious lawns, a large flower garden and an ornamental arboretum, must transform these pleasure grounds into kitchen or market gardens. With some luck and good management he may save a patch of lawn here, a plot of flowers there, and some precious trees also, but the ability to afford these amenities must depend in part on good management and sound economy on the greater part of the land—on skilful and judicious cropping. And if most of the land for forests is to be poor land, most of the trees must be conifers.

Some difficulties would be eased if certain habits of thought could be broken and a more

intelligently critical vision cultivated. Most people distinguish sharply between kitchen and flower gardens, and between useful and beautiful trees, but in fact some kitchen-garden plants are beautiful, and so also are many conifers.

If the concept of beauty in a tree were better integrated with appreciation of function, a real advance would be made. At present, too few people ever stop to consider the function of a tree. If they look at a building, they consider "commoditie, firmnesse and delight," but if they look at a tree they consider only delight, and even that within strictly limited criteria and habits of thought. For example, a Norway spruce growing on a hillside is a stiff, formal alien, or another depressing unit in the regimented files of darkness. Yet the same tree brought indoors at Christmas is a charming ornament.

If more people would observe and ponder their observations a little more, they might be able to appreciate the thriftiness and economy of conifers, which can make both timber and beauty out of wastes.



THE MAISTERS OF HULL

By R. A. ALEC-SMITH

IN his searches among the Grimston family papers at Goodmanham, Mr. Edward Ingram has established the authorship by Sir Henry Cheere of the *Flora* which still dominates the beautiful Palladian staircase at Maister's House in High Street, Hull. He has done more, for he has attracted attention both to Maister's House—the finest 18th-century merchant's house in the city—and to the interesting and once influential family from which it takes its name. The Maisters, though Hull and the East Riding know them no more, have left to posterity not only their splendid mid-Georgian house (1744) but also much correspondence and a good set (scattered, but traced) of family portraits. Along with the Sykes family, the Peases, Smiths (of Smith's Bank), Wilberforces and Broadleys, the Maisters take their place among the greater merchant-banking families of the north. Two hundred years ago these families were among those who laid the foundations of the extensive developments both of the city of Hull and of its trade during the last and the present centuries.

The Maisters are first heard of in Hull in the 1580s. They had come there from Kent, and they bore similar arms and crest to the family of Master of Barrow Green Court in that county. The first of the name to hold public office in Hull was William, born in 1597, who became Chamberlain, Sheriff and Mayor of Hull at various dates in the 17th-century. His son, Henry, born in 1632, apart from holding many civic positions, became Deputy Governor of the Hamburg Eastland Companies. He died in 1699, and was succeeded as head of the family by his son, William (1662-1716), who had the distinction, after being Sheriff of Hull in 1699, of representing the town in seven successive Parliaments—from 1700 to 1716. It was through his marriage with Lucy, the widow of Mr. George Dickinson, Collector of Customs

in Plymouth and later in Hull, that the southern part of the parish of Winestead (the birthplace of Andrew Marvell), which had formerly belonged to the Hildyards, came into the Maister's ownership, in which it continued until 1829; when the Hildyards bought it back again. William Maister, whose great granddaughter married the sixth Duke of St. Albans, was succeeded in his turn by his eldest son Henry (1699-1744), Sheriff of Hull in 1729, and Member for the town from 1735 to 1741. It fell to this Henry's misfortune to lose both his wife, Mary (the daughter of Sir Arthur Cayley, third Bart. of Brompton, in the North Riding), and the town house of his family in a great fire in 1743. But he was able, before his own untimely death at Bath the following year, to initiate the plans for the rebuilding, on the old site, of the High Street house, which still stands to-day and which it was left to his son, also called Henry (1730-1812), to complete and decorate.

This young man, in his late teens and early twenties, must be credited with the knowledge

and taste which demanded of an unknown architect a remarkable achievement, almost comparable with that of William Kent in his staircase at 44, Berkeley Square for Lady Isabella Finch. The stone staircase at Hull, with its iron balustrade, rises on three sides of a square to the first-floor landing, its walls elaborately stuccoed after the fashion of work, not surprisingly, at Brompton, or at 46, Lincoln's Inn Fields. Here, too, are the niche with Henry Cheere's *Flora*, and the plaque of the philosopher, Locke. The whole is surmounted by a gallery at second-floor level, more stucco, and an exquisitely adorned and coved ceiling into which brackets and bustoes are introduced. One wonders whether Kent himself had any hand in the designs for this decoration shortly before his death (it appears that the niche had been made prior to the early 1750s, when the Cheere statue was ordered), for the Hull merchants, especially, perhaps, the wealthy Maisters, had a wide business connection with the county families, of which Lord Burlington's at near-by Londesborough was one.

Maister correspondence of the 1750s and '60s shows clearly that Henry was more concerned with the proper use of his wealth than with the process of making more. The routine of the family business was left to his uncle, Nathaniel, whose letters are a sheer delight to read because of their humour. Like most merchants of those days, the Maisters were bankers, agents, estate managers, and business



HERALDIC BOOKPLATE OF HENRY MAISTER (1699-1744), THE BUILDER OF MAISTER'S HOUSE, HULL



HENRY CHEERE'S *FLORA* (c. 1751) ON THE RICHLY PLASTERED STAIRCASE AT MAISTER'S HOUSE



WILLIAM MAISTER, BY GEORG SCHRODER, THE SWEDISH COURT PAINTER, circa 1725. From the author's collection. (Right) ARTHUR MAISTER (1739-1790) "IN THE GARB OF A RUSSIAN MERCHANT": BY FRANCIS COTES. From the University of Southern California, Los Angeles

men, dealing in imported goods—iron ore from Sweden, wine and timber. But their trade in Hull was mostly with the Baltic. To Stockholm or St. Petersburg were sent the cadets of the family to act as agents. On one occasion, however, Nathaniel, who died childless, offered Mr. Grimston to make a draughts board and men "seeing that I cannot succeed in making boys." Mr. Grimston, in return, had promised to buy for him a painting to go over the chimney, the front of which "is yet bare"; "it is proposed," says Nathaniel, "to have only a light moulding in which the picture may be placed. I apprehend 3 feet 6 inches square will suit, but it may be an inch or two more or less. I am told the painters frequently paint pieces for sale about this size . . . for moderate prices, but that if one of a particular size is bespoke they expect a great deal more for it. My dear friend, you will excuse the hint but you know I love to buy things in the cheapest way . . . if you cannot meet with one that will suit, I must order an additional quantity of (wall) paper. . . ."

Whatever may have been Nathaniel's views on buying in the cheapest way, his nephew Henry was painted, as a young man by Highmore, and in middle age by Sir Nathaniel Dance, and his wife, Margaret (a daughter of Sir Warton Pennyman Warton, fourth Bart. of Ormesby and Thornton in Cleveland) was painted by Angelica Kauffmann. This young Henry Maister was to become Colonel of the East Riding Militia, Vice-Lieutenant of Hull and the East Riding, and one of the earliest chairmen of the Dock Company at Hull. He divided his time between the High Street house and Winestead, while his younger brother, Arthur, looked after the family interests in St. Petersburg for

many years. It was this Arthur whose portrait by Francis Cotes attracted my attention on a visit to the Antique Dealers'

Fair in 1935, and which led to the tracing of fifteen other portraits of the family, all of which had left the Hull district. They

include an interesting three-quarter length of William Maister (circa 1725) by the Swedish court painter Georg Engelhart Schroder (1684-1750).

The Cotes portrait depicts Arthur Maister "in the garb of a Russian merchant," a red cloak, which misled some to suppose it to be a mayoral gown. This and the Kauffman portrait are now in America, but another painting, by Cotes, of Mrs. Arthur Maister is retained in the writer's possession, together with the Highmore and the Schroder. Quite by chance they are back again at Winestead, though a reverse in the family fortunes necessitated the sale of the whole of the Maister properties both in Hull and Holderness in the 19th century. In 1840 "the capital mansion . . . being No. 160 in High Street with the out offices stables and coach house . . . was valued for sale at £1820."

Before the crash, Colonel Arthur Maister, Arthur's son (1775-1833), and his brother Henry William (1776-1846) built, in 1814-15, upon their respective estates at Winestead and at Wood Hall, Skirlaugh, a pair of very noble Regency houses—obviously by the same architect, perhaps Thomas Cundy of Pimlico or Charles Mountaine of Hull—which survive as private houses. The town house, scheduled for preservation by the Minister of Works, is now used as offices, and is kept in perfect repair by appreciative owners.

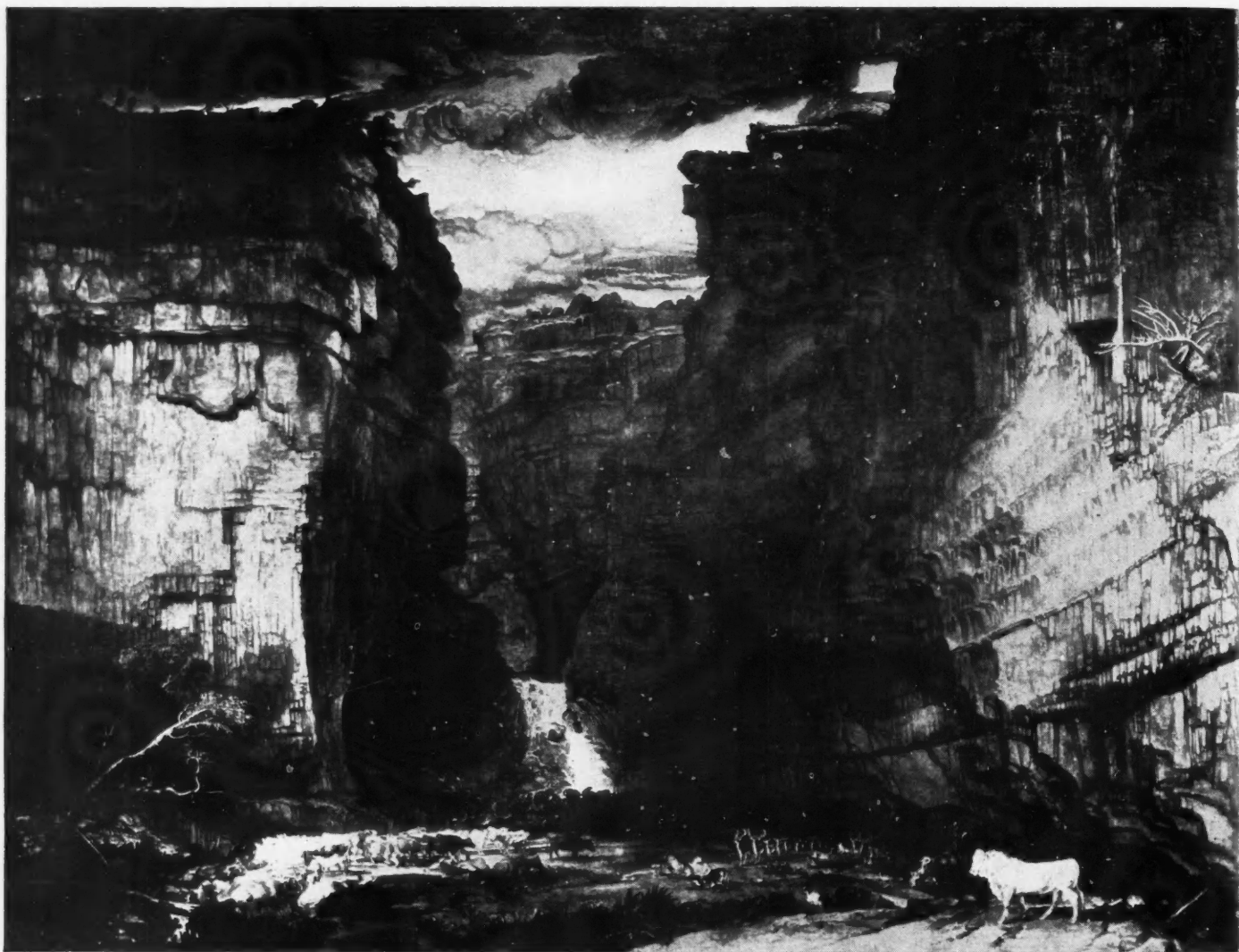
To-day we are obliged to think on the same lines as the 17th-century Maisters who had as their motto "*Vix ea Nostra Voco*—one can scarcely call the things of one's ancestors one's own."



HENRY MAISTER (1730-1812), CHAIRMAN OF THE HULL DOCK COMPANY: BY NATHANIEL DANCE. From the collection of the late Major J. H. Dent-Brocklehurst

JAMES WARD RECONSIDERED

By GEOFFREY GRIGSON



GORDALE SCAR, BY JAMES WARD AND—

Of all the painters who interpreted country subjects with power and imagination, the most neglected and the most under-esteemed is James Ward (1769-1859). If he has been attended to, it is chiefly as a painter of animals. He liked animals, he painted them at times with brilliance; but he might have said of the run of his animal portraits what was said by Antoine Wiertz, a later romantic and

emulator of Rubens of far less skill and power: "Portraits for soup, pictures for glory." His energy and his output were great. The only book which deals with Ward's life in any detail (by C. R. Grundy, published in 1909 and disappointing) lists nearly nine hundred things by him and certainly the list was incomplete. Heaven knows where most of the 900 are to-day.

The point about Ward is that he combined the moods and influences of his time uniquely and it was the great time of English art. He began as a sentimentalist, a rural sentimentalist, in the manner of his brother-in-law, George Morland; and he scarcely found himself until he came to his thirties or forties. One may compare him first of all with that painter whom I believe to have been the greatest in the English art of the 18th century, George Stubbs. Forty-five years separate the birth of the two men. Their lives, characters, paintings and engravings illuminate the revolution in which the 18th century's conceptions were at last overwhelmed. Animals painted by Stubbs stand still, for the most part, as though they were sculpture in relief, and are suavely modelled and firmly outlined. Ward painted animals in violence and energy or in picturesque decrepitude. Stubbs' landscape is clear and unmoved by wind. Ward's landscape murky, often tempestuous, often tremendous. Stubbs' pigment is smooth and thin, Ward puts on his colour thickly and in corrugation. The one painter is serene and rational, the other haunted by wildness of feeling. Stubbs was scientifically minded, concerned with order, Ward mixed science with devotion to the prophetic excesses of the preacher, Edward Irving.

Between these artists of divergent types lie the Revolution, Napoleon and Waterloo. "We have seen the reign," wrote Ward in one of his curious pamphlets, "the triumph, and the downfall of the Great Beast with seven heads and ten horns . . . the king, the queen, with all



—PENCIL SKETCH FOR PART OF FOREGROUND, 1812-15. At the Tate Gallery

the blood royal that could be caught frightfully disgraced and murdered, and the very name of king proscribed. The *Priests* and the *people* sacrificed by *millions*. The snows of the north crimsoned with the blood of 400,000 at one sweep, while reflecting the wild glare of Moscow's conflagrations!" (*New Trial of the Spirits*, 1835). Yet Ward, like Stubbs, valued anatomy and dissected animals under a Fellow of the Royal Society; and developed, for different, indeed personal, ends, the detailed study of appearances.

We cannot imagine Stubbs having any interest in Blake. Ward knew him well. He and Blake used to meet at the *salon* of the Alsatian merchant, Charles Aders, and his English wife, which was attended also by Wordsworth, and Coleridge and Lamb. He held that Blake was a genius and wrote afterwards: "I have considered him as amongst the many proofs I have witnessed, of men being possessed by different orders of spirits now, as well as in the time when the Saviour Christ was upon the earth. . . . But men, and even our Church, set down everyone who is eccentric as mad." (*Gilchrist's Life of William Blake*). Like Blake, he was possessed by *Pilgrim's Progress*, and he believed in inspiration and the need of prayer over his pictures. He had known Blake's friend, Fuseli (of whose work there is to be an Arts Council exhibition from January 26). One of the fiercest and most extravagant of his pictures, *The Boa Serpent*, which he painted in 1811, he owed, or so it seems, to a hint from Fuseli. A boa constrictor unwinds from an oak to seize a negro on a white stallion. A drawing of the subject by Fuseli exists at Zurich. Ward's *Boa Serpent* was lost, rather appropriately, in a storm in the Atlantic, though a smaller version survives.

It was in 1812 (he was then 43) that Ward painted what is probably his masterpiece, *Gordale Scar*, now in the Tate Gallery. This immense picture of the immense limestone gorge in the West Riding epitomises the new views of Nature and of self, the savage uprush of feeling through the social crust of the years around 1800. Here in this work all the moods and influences unite, the big and the awesome, the detailed study of Nature and the new determination that landscape must no longer be tame and topographical. Dark muscles of cloud, derived from Italian mannerism, roll over the gorge, the waters of life come tumbling down between its precipitous walls, cattle and deer gather in the flat meadow of the foreground, and nearest to the eye a bull symbolises the savagery and strength of the whole. If Ward's bull, in this and other pictures, derives from the animal painting of Paul Potter in the 17th century, Potter's unemotionally conceived creature is remoulded into the emotional lineaments of strength and fierceness. If Ward's landscape (and his cattle as well) owe much to Rubens, Rubens is tipped from balance into excess. In excess Ward speaks as authentically for his time as Turner or Byron or Shelley.

Like other "excessive" artists Ward was moved to emulate and, if he could, conquer the great artists of his admiration. The Belgian painter Wiertz, whom I mentioned, was once as a young man in the Museum at Antwerp looking at paintings by Rubens when the Prince of Orange came round. Wiertz pretended not to notice him. He was asked why he had not paid his respects and he replied, "Why should I take my hat off to that fellow when I have never taken it off to this one?"—pointing on the wall to Rubens. Ward's competition with Rubens goes back to 1803, when he first saw the great landscape of the Château de Steen in the studio of Benjamin West. He spent the day looking at it, and then in emulation began his painting, *The Fighting Bulls at St. Donats Castle*. He recorded with satisfaction how one of the Academicians shook him eagerly by the hand, saying, "Ward, I congratulate you. You have thrown the gauntlet at Rubens, and you have beaten him." Whether such competition seems to us ridiculous or no, Ward developed into a powerful artist and his pictures are his own.

He began the *Gordale Scar* in 1812. The painting went ahead study by study, version by version, until the final work, a vast ten feet



MARY ANNE GARLE. Circa 1816

eleven inches by nearly fourteen feet, was exhibited at the Academy in 1815. If Ward believed in prayer and inspiration, if he believed that a landscape must be imaginative and interpretative of powerful feelings, he believed also in hard work. The year before he began painting the *Gordale* he had toured Scotland, walking thirty miles a day in the rain with a poisoned foot, living on milk and whisky. On an earlier tour through Wales he had made nearly six hundred sketches in three months. And we can see how *Gordale* was captured inch by inch, drawing by drawing, how he studied his animals for the foreground and the lace of the waterfall and the structure of the limestone. The Tate owns not only the picture itself but sketches in pencil, water-colour and oil. At Leeds and at Bradford there are smaller preliminary versions. What Ward was able to do, indisputably, was to carry an idea through from germ to realisation, gaining strength on the way.



ADONIS, THE FAVOURITE CHARGER OF HIS LATE MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY KING GEORGE III. 1824. In the British Museum

There is little that Ward did not paint, from prize beasts to allegories, stallions to landscape, huntsmen and hounds to madmen, young girls to grotesques, "half-human, half-hobgoblins"; and between banality and brilliant strength his work exhibits the great fluctuation possible within the output of a single artist. It is always dangerous to judge a painter, to condemn a painter, from a few of his pictures. Ward has no doubt been judged in that way. He began sentimentally, and living to a great age he ended feebly.

Much of his work one may go and see at the Tate, at the Victoria and Albert, at the National Gallery, in the art gallery at Nottingham, and in the British Museum, but not enough, and not always the best. Many of his pictures are still in private hands, in collections for which they were painted, many more have disappeared, particularly those romantically extravagant works which were little favoured through Victorian days and through most of our own century. One would much like to see, for example, *The Twelve Signs of the Zodiac*, which Ward painted for William Beckford, or *The Boa Destroying a Tiger* shown at the Glasgow International Exhibition in 1901 and sold in London in 1929 for three guineas.

Still, one can see enough of Ward to know that this little man with his long beard, knee-breeches and Hessian boots and his haunted mind must have been the most immensely energetic of English painters after Turner; and enough not to be surprised at Géricault's admiration for him. *Gordale Scar* is not rodomontade or empty magnificence. His lithographs (there are proofs in the British Museum) of George III's Adonis and Napoleon's Marengo are moving and mysterious. His water-colours and his drawings, which one can still buy cheaply enough, combine often delicacy and energy.

A full life and study of James Ward would reveal to us a personality in the history of art whose performance was greater and influence wider than we suspect. And judging by his bizarre writings and some of the strangely humorous letters by him I have read, a life of Ward would not be wanting in colour. "God is not to be mocked! The vivid lightnings are gone forth! Farm house conflagrations, York Minster conflagration, Senate House of Kings, Lords and Commons burnt—I will overturn! overturn! overturn! Ezek. xxi. 27. King, Church, Government, and people beware!" Ward was a product, to borrow his words, of an "awful and momentous era."



1.—CHARLTON ADAM CHURCH AND THE ABBEY, FROM THE SOUTH

CHARLTON ADAM AND CHARLTON MACKRELL, SOMERSET—I

THE ABBEY, CHARLTON ADAM

By GORDON NARES

The house probably incorporates the remains of a mediæval chantry chapel, remodelled in the late 16th century. It had become a farm-house when it was restored in 1902



2.—THE STAIRCASE WING AND MODERN ENTRANCE PORCH AT THE WEST END OF THE ABBEY

THE two small Somerset villages with the picturesque names of Charlton Adam and Charlton Mackrell, though undistinguished in history and too scattered in their arrangement to be visually impressive, nevertheless contain buildings of unusual intrinsic interest. They lie near where the River Cary breaks through the south-eastern arm of the Polden Hills on its way to feed the dykes and rhines of Sedgemoor. The river here runs under a stone bridge of two arches, called Popple Bridge, on the Roman Fosse Way, and gives its name to two ancient places, Lytes Cary and Cary Fitzpaine. The fertile land between the river and the Bath-Ilchester road was farmed by a Roman whose villa was excavated at the beginning of the 19th century, and where, according to Sir Richard Colt Hoare, a hypocaust was unearthed. Near the site of the villa stands the chief house of the neighbourhood, the noble 15th- and 16th-century manor house of Lytes Cary (Fig. 5), which was illustrated in COUNTRY LIFE in July and August, 1947, shortly before the National Trust acquired it. When Collinson wrote his *History of the County of Somerset* in 1791 the manor of Charlton Mackrell belonged to Thomas Lockyer of Ilchester, probably a son or grandson of the Thomas Lockyer whose purchase of the mortgage of Lytes Cary in 1755 was instrumental in bringing to an end the Lytes' five-hundred-year tenure of the house that bears their name.

The early history of the Mackrell manor, before it came into the possession of the Lockyers, is obscure. The Fitzpaines held half of it until the last member of the family died without male issue in the reign of Edward III. A Fitzpaine heiress carried some of the property to the families of Poytings and Percy, but the remainder of the manor was granted to Robert, younger son of Richard, Lord Grey of Codnor, and for a time the village assumed the name of Charlton Grey. The Horseys, an influential West Country family who were related to the Lytes, also held land in the village.

Half a mile to the east of Charlton Mackrell lies Charlton Adam, but the manorial descent of the villages, despite their nearness, has not been connected since they were, as Collinson puts it, "in Domesday Book comprehended under the undistinguished name of Cerletune." (By undistinguished he means, presumably, unspecified, though Charlton itself—meaning the "town of the free peasants," or possibly the "town of the villeins"—is, in the other sense, certainly a common name, and some fifty instances of it occur in the gazetteer.) When Bruton Priory was founded in the 12th century the church and advowson of Charlton Adam were evidently given towards the upkeep of the new institution. The donor



3.—THE SOUTH FRONT



4.—THE PANELLED DRAWING-ROOM



5.—EAST FRONT OF LYTES CARY, THE PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL TRUST

was John Fitz Hamon, the son of Hamon Fitz Adam, whose ancestors are said to have given their name to the village. In the following century a descendant, Henry Fitz Richard, was granted by the Prior and Convent of Bruton "that he and his heirs for ever may have the free chapel in their Court of Cherleton, which is within the limits of the Church of Cherleton. That he and his heirs shall maintain the said chapel, at their own charges, and shall cause it to be served by their own chaplains, who shall swear Fielty to the Prior and Convent to preserve the indemnity of the Mother Church of Cherleton Adam." This deed founding the chantry in Charlton Adam was confirmed by the Bishop of Bath in 1237.

Mediaeval chantries were chapels endowed for maintaining priests to chant masses for the souls of the founder and his family, or someone named by him. The word "chantry" is applied either to the chapel itself or to the source of income, often land, given to maintain the priests. Chantry chapels were usually attached to a church, but the wording of the Charlton Adam deed suggests that the chapel there was not in the parish church but in the neighbouring house, now known as the Abbey (Fig. 1). This impression is confirmed by the Inquisition that was held on the chantry shortly after the Dissolution of the Monasteries, when the

Crown confiscated all chantry endowments. It was reported by the commissioners that the land attached to the Chapel of the Holy Spirit in Charlton Adam was farmed by one John Larder, Esquire, and that "The Chapel is adjoining the said house of the said Mr. Larder, wherein was no Masse this twenty or thirty yere. Howbeit he paid the said rent to the Incumbent, for the time being no Incumbent there, no plate, no ornaments."

After the Inquisition the chantry was granted to two shadowy figures, "Sir Thomas Bell, Knt. and Richard Duke, Esq. to be held of the King as of the Manor of Stallbridge in the County of Dorset." These men had also acquired land in Charlton Mackrell that had been endowed for chantries by the Horseys and others.

Queen Elizabeth gave the manor of Charlton Adam to Sir Francis Walsingham, but he soon sold it to Sir William Petre, a former Secretary of State. Petre was one of the Tudor statesmen, like Cecil and Rich, who were "sprung from the willow rather than the oak," and he contrived to serve Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary and Elizabeth with equal fidelity but without offending his religious scruples. He obtained huge estates in the West Country after the Dissolution of the Monasteries, but his principal seat was at Ingatestone, in Essex. The house that he

built there in 1539, on the site of a grange of Barking Abbey, was illustrated in *COUNTRY LIFE* on January 15, 1938.

The house in Charlton Adam now known as the Abbey is built on the site of Henry Fitz Richard's Chapel of the Holy Spirit, and it is said to incorporate some of the chantry buildings. Although the house appears to have been extensively remodelled in the late 16th century, its strange plan suggests that some previously existing building determined the arrangement of the additions.

It is, however, extremely difficult to give a reliable date to undocumented mediaeval buildings in out-of-the-way places, where the time lag in building methods was anything up to half a century or more. For example, the cross gablets surmounting the two outside gables in Fig. 7 are common in 15th-century buildings, but they persist in stone-producing districts, such as Somerset and the Cotswolds, even in the 17th century. The type of four-centred arches in the heads of the two-light window on the ground floor in Fig. 6 is usually associated with the time of Henry VII, but they occur both earlier and later (this window, incidentally, has an unusual mullion), and the buttresses on the south and west fronts might be as early as the 14th century.

The presence of buttresses indicates



6.—THE ABBEY: TEXTURE OF THE MASONRY ON THE ENTRANCE FRONT. (Right) 7.—CONTRASTING GABLES AT THE EAST END

pre-Reformation work. It is conceivable that the high, narrow wing at the west end of the house (Fig. 2) was the solar end of an ordinary mediæval hall house, although it is not possible to say whether the hall extended westwards towards the church or eastwards across the site of the present house. A built-up round arch in the west wall (near the right-hand first-floor window in Fig. 2) indicates the former theory, but the untouched state of the buttresses favours the latter. A straight joint in the masonry between this wing and the rest of the house shows that the two parts were built at different times, but the west end is almost certainly the older.

The exact position of the chantry chapel "adjoining the said house" is also not easy to determine. It might have occupied either the ground or first floors of the present south range (see sketch plan), with a correctly orientated window in the southernmost of the three gables at the east end of the house (Fig. 7). There is evidence of a window having been walled up in this gable. The middle gable of these three seems to be later in date than the two outside ones, and might have been added at the time of the late Tudor additions.

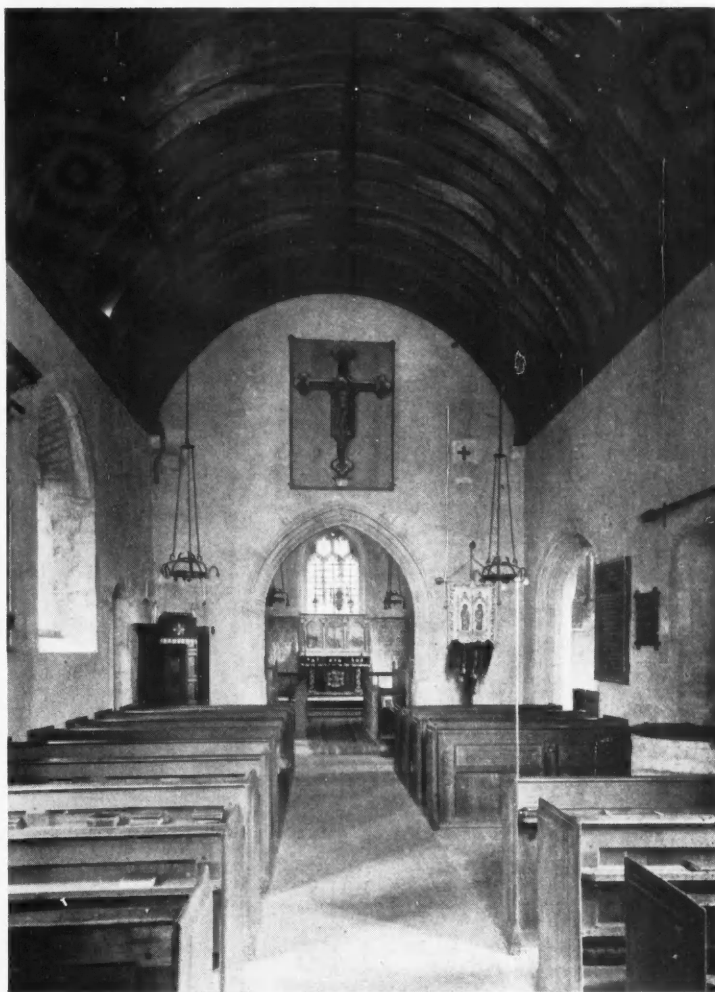
The reason for assigning the date of these alterations so categorically to the end of the 16th century is the presence of a



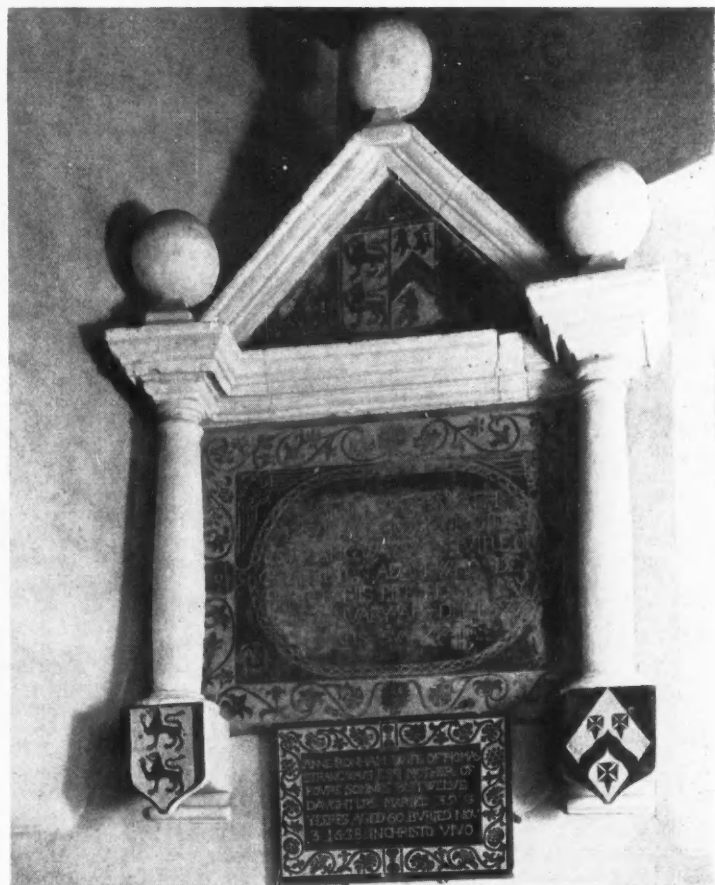
8.—JANSEN: PRINCESS ELIZABETH, SECOND DAUGHTER OF CHARLES I AND HENRIETTA MARIA

withdrawing-room on the first floor. Except in very large buildings the common planning arrangement in Elizabethan houses was to dispense with an open-raftered great hall and to substitute an oblong one-storey hall with a drawing-room (the "great chamber" of John Thorpe's plans) over it. This disposition of rooms was observed at the Abbey. The existing drawing-room (Fig. 4) on the south front corresponds to the Elizabethan hall, and was formed in the west end of the chapel (assuming that the chapel did occupy the south side of the house). Above this room and the adjoining sitting-room on the north front there was a large lofty "great chamber," lit at each end by high windows with mullions and transoms. The room has since been divided into two parts. The southern half, now used as a bedroom, rises almost to the roof, and still retains a coved ceiling and its large window (the latter can be seen in Fig. 3). The northern half of the "great chamber" is also used as a bedroom, but above it there is a small attic room, lit at floor level by the upper part of the tall window seen on the left of Fig. 2.

The "great chamber" floor is reached by a stout oak staircase that occupies the northern end of the high wing on the west, or



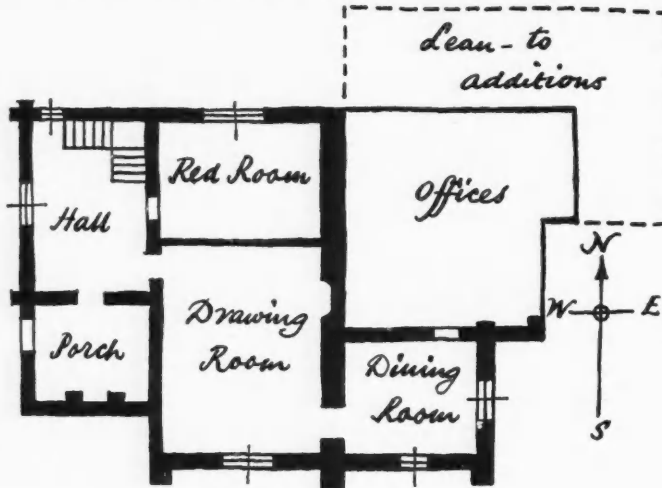
9.—CHARLTON ADAM CHURCH



10.—17th-CENTURY MONUMENT IN THE SOUTH AISLE

entrance, front of the house. A harmonious modern porch has been added to the south side of this wing (Fig. 2), and it opens into the hall at the foot of the stairs. From the hall, doors open into the two adjoining sitting-rooms under the old "great chamber"—the Red room and the drawing-room. Beyond the drawing-room there is a small dining-room, with access to the kitchen and offices in the north-east corner.

In the panelled drawing-room (Fig. 4) there hangs a portrait by Jansen of Charles I's second daughter, Elizabeth (Fig. 8), of whom it is recorded that "her forlorn situation, combined with her reputation for learning, her profound melancholy and meek resignation interested many a heart in her fate." She died, aged fifteen, in the year following her father's execution. On the right of this painting hangs a portrait of Elizabeth Russell, granddaughter of Oliver Cromwell. Her mother, Frances Cromwell, whose portrait by Lely hangs in the same room, was twice married, first to Robert Rich and after his death to Sir John Russell, Bart. Elizabeth Russell married Sir Thomas Frankland, Bart., and Mrs. Neville, the present owner of the Abbey,



11.—SKETCH PLAN

is directly descended from them. When the late Mr. Claud Neville bought the house in 1902 it was being used as a farm, and the present good state of the Abbey is due to his careful restoration. Besides possessing many delightful pictures, Mrs. Neville herself paints them, and the copy of *The Road* over the chancel arch in Charlton Adam Church (Fig. 9) is one of her works.

The east end of the church lies within a

stone's-throw of the Abbey front door (Fig. 1). The side chapel in the south aisle is often known as the Strangways Chapel after the numerous members of that family who are commemorated there.

On the wall above the narrow archway that connects this chapel with the chancel there is a monument in memory of Giles Strangways, who died in 1677. It is a crude but engaging attempt at Classical design (Fig. 10). Two strangely shaped columns and an over-steep pediment frame an inscription on slate, which is surrounded by leaves, fruit and fanciful masks of humans, angels and animals. Beneath this monument there is a smaller tablet to Anne Bonham (d. 1638), wife of Thomas Strang-

ways. Presumably Giles Strangways was one of the "four sonnes" mentioned in her inscription, as might also have been Aegidius Strangways, who married Margareta Ludlow, sister of General Edmund Ludlow, the regicide.

The Strangways used to live at the Manor House, Charlton Adam, now known as Manor Farm, Charlton Mackrell, which will be illustrated next week.

NINE HOLES

A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

WE are always wondering gloomily how anybody, and especially anybody young, can afford to play golf nowadays, so it occurred to me to do my own little bit of wondering as to whether the effect of this general hard-upness may ultimately be an increase of nine-hole courses and a reduction in those of 18. When golf was by our modern notions a quite fantastically cheap game there were far more nine-hole than 18-hole courses. To-day we think of 18 holes as the normal and orthodox thing and nine as rather odd and humble. I have just been trying to count the nine-hole courses that I know or know of and there are very few. Worlington, of course, must come at the top of the list, a truly noble one that can never be enlarged. Then there is Bembridge with its criss-cross of holes, that Horace Hutchinson called a cat's cradle; alas, I have not seen it since 1892. Hampstead occurs to me, and the second course at Frilford Heath—a very engaging one—and that is about all. True there is Musselburgh, but that is to-day more of a ghost, however venerable and illustrious, than a course.

There are, in fact, more than I thought, for by way of example, I opened the invaluable *Golfer's Handbook* at random, and on the page alliteratively confronting me were three nine-hole courses out of four in a row, Lesmahagow, Letterkenny and Leuchars. There are doubtless plenty more, but they are generally the courses of small clubs in not very populous places. That is a very different state of things from that in my boyhood. The courses on which I then played my holiday golf in successive years were Felixstowe, Cromer, Eastbourne and Aberdovey, and all four were nine-hole courses. Aberdovey was then small and remote, but the other three were "resorts" and "watering places" and yet made do with nine. Moreover I have been looking at my old green *Golfing Annual* for 1888-89—and I was a golfer then—and an 18-hole course is decidedly the exception. There were also in those distant days some courses with odd numbers of holes. Apart from the seven of historic Blackheath, Seaton Carew had 14 and Seaford 12, Airdrie, like Blackheath, seven, and Salisbury eight. That is to say Salisbury was hoping to have eight, but the gentleman who had received the editor's enquiries was "the most likely to fill the position (of Hon. Sec.) when the club existed." At the moment the greens were "distinctly embryonic."

I confess to having a weakness for these courses with out-of-the-way numbers of holes, because the only course I ever laid out, in Macedonia, had 14 holes. There was room for more, but with our limited architectural resources, they would have been relatively dull and featureless. I simply went on the principle of making as many reasonably entertaining holes as I could and then stopping. Even so my artistic conscience reproaches me as to one or two which were hardly up to standard and I believe twelve would have made the ideal number. Prestwick had but twelve once upon a time and what was good enough for Prestwick ought to have been good enough for Dudular. There must be an obvious temptation, in increasing a course from nine to 18, to squeeze in some unworthy holes. I may be prejudiced, by reason of early association, but I am convinced that the original Felixstowe, with all nine holes on the real seaside stuff, was superior to its longer successor, in which all manner of other ground had been prayed in aid. Moreover I still have a sturdy affection for the nine holes of Cromer and Eastbourne as I first knew them. Each of them was then a hole of marked character, even if it was not always the very best character, and that is something that an 18-hole course cannot always accomplish, when Nature has not been sufficiently bountiful in her gifts.

Let nobody think that I am deliberately wanting to cut down all courses to nine holes. I am rather choosing the nine-hole course as Calverley chose the organ-grinder "for encomium as a change." Nevertheless there are some very pleasant things about nine holes. It is pleasant, for instance, to make a dash into the club-house on a bitterly cold day for a glass of sloe gin or cherry brandy. Anybody who has ever played in a winter match at Worlington has done it and felt all the better for it. There is something glowing and friendly and Pickwickian about it. So there is about the fact that we are almost constantly in sight of our acquaintance and can "speak one another in passing" and discover how they are faring.

I was re-reading the other day Mr. James Balfour's agreeable little book published in 1887, *Reminiscences of Golf on St. Andrews Links*. He mentioned that there had once been propounded a scheme to make a circular course of it and come home by the other side of the links; that was long before the days of the New Course,

He objected to it not only for the obvious reason that it would abolish such noble home-coming holes but that it would "deprive parties of the pleasure of meeting their friends and hearing how their matches were getting on." This sociable quality is a great thing on a nine-hole course, which has a snugness and friendliness necessarily denied to 18. At Worlington there is hardly a single moment in the round at which one cannot get at least a glimpse of everyone else on the course.

Whether we should grow tired of playing the same holes just twice as often as we do on an 18-hole course it is a little difficult to say. It may be said of so great and thrilling a short hole as the fifth at Worlington that we could not play it too often; but I am not so sure, the strain is great and cumulative. The old Felixstowe again had a wonderful finishing hole beset by disaster called the Point. Enough of that might have been as good as a feast. At such holes as these one is apt to feel that one has had one's ration of good fortune and that calamity must be coming.

One indubitably good point about a nine-hole course is the opportunity it gives for just one more round after tea on a summer evening. A whole 18 is too exhausting and to set out on a full round in the hopes of shortening it by "cutting in" can be cause of fury and disappointment. One complete round of nine is the ideal. And apropos what grand rounds of nine-holes can be carved out of the full 18, only one can insinuate oneself into a gap in the home-coming stream of players.

Think of Prestwick, for instance; the first three holes out to the mighty Carding, then turn for home, play the Sea Hedrig, the 13th, the 14th and the famous loop. I really cannot think of a short round so blood-curdling and entrancing. It is a pity not to get that great fourth hole into it, but otherwise the very cream of the course is there. At St. Andrews the first four out and the last four home make a fine short round of eight, but I cannot see how to squeeze in a ninth. Deal again is admirable—first five out and last four home—and Sandwich lends itself best to twelve holes, which is a little bit too much. Aberdovey is perfect—out to the Pulpit and turn home to the Crater—and so I might go on. There is much to be said for nine holes, even if on the whole there is more to be said for 18.

A CAUSERIE ON BRIDGE

RESPONSES—DEPRESSING AND OTHERWISE

FOLLOWING an opening call of One in a suit, unless the early approach bidding suggests an adequate fit in a major (exceptionally, in a minor) suit, the partners will naturally consider a final contract in No-Trumps.

The ability to call a game that stands a fair chance of success, or to stop in time in a part-score contract, depends to a large extent on the proper application of the 25-point combined count yardstick.

The situation that causes most difficulty in ill-informed circles is where the opening suit bid elicits a response of One No-Trump. Old superstitions die hard, and for the source of the trouble we have to go back to the early days when we all played Culbertson's Forcing-Two system. The opening One bid had an enormous range; in spite of their very different texture, both of the following hands had to be opened with One Spade:

1. ♠ A Q 10 9 6 3 ♥ K 2 ♦ A K 10 7 3 ♣ ...
2. ♠ A Q 9 3 ♥ K J 6 4 ♦ K 3 2 ♣ 8 5

Responder's hand might be the following:

♠ J 8 ♥ A 9 ♦ J 8 6 5 ♣ 10 6 4 3 2

If opener happened to hold Hand 1, Six Diamonds would be a good contract; therefore it was imperative that partner should not make a supine pass over One Spade. The only call he could make was One No-Trump.

But if opener had Hand 2, this response might well be the prelude to disaster, especially if opener made the common mistake of bidding Two Hearts on the next round.

This "courtesy response" soon achieved the status of an unofficial convention. It even acquired a name—the Negative No-Trump. It was an automatic gesture on the following hand after partner had opened with One Club:

♠ Q 8 7 5 ♥ J 9 7 3 ♦ K 10 6 4 ♣ 2

Utterly illogical, wasteful and stupid. The idea was to deny Clubs and stop partner rebidding them; but how difficult to reach the best contract if opener's hand was something like this:

♠ J ♥ A 10 8 4 ♦ A 8 3 ♣ K J 10 8 3

Over One No-Trump, he could scarcely be expected to find the reverse rebid of Two Hearts, which would show a far stronger hand. Hating No-Trumps with his singleton Spade, he would defy the "denial" and go back to Two Clubs.

It did not take us long to discover the solution to this problem. In the above example, responder is only just worth a bid; so we evolved the principle that *the weakest bid is the cheapest* on such a hand. A response of One Diamond is both cheap and constructive, for it gives opener room to rebid One Spade, One Heart or even One No-Trump. On the hand in question the rebid, of course, is One Heart; responder raises to Two Hearts in case partner is stronger, but opener will then pass.

The situation is more complex when the responder can show a suit only at the Two level. This may be his hand:

♠ 5 ♥ Q 10 7 3 ♦ K 9 8 2 ♣ J 10 6 4

Partner opens One Spade. This time responder cannot bid one of his weak four-card suits at the level of Two. He must bid One No-Trump in spite of—not because of—the singleton Spade.

But over One Spade a response of Two Clubs is justified on the following hand, although the point count is the same:

♠ 5 ♥ 10 7 ♦ J 9 8 ♣ K Q 10 9 6 4 2

The powerful Club suit offers a place of refuge if things get sticky.

To summarise, therefore, the suit response should be preferred to the One No-Trump response whenever it can be made at the One level, except in the case where the opening bid was One Club. The take-out into Two of a suit requires a minimum of 8 points unless the suit is exceptionally long.

Over One Spade, One Heart or One Diamond, a response of One No-Trump should be made on a minimum of 6 points, or a "good" 5—but never on a Queen-high 5-count. The

By M. HARRISON-GRAY

upward limit should not exceed 8, except with a very bad 9-count, such as the following:

♠ J 3 2 ♥ A 7 4 ♦ A 6 5 ♣ 9 8 5 3

On this hand the correct response to any One-bid (including One Club) is One No-Trump.

Responder's action over an opening One Club bid is a modern development. It is obviously easy enough to find a cheap suit bid if his hand is a minimum; so if he chooses to reply with One No-Trump, it is logical to assume that he has a reasonable hand. Over One Club, One No-Trump is the right response with:

♠ K 10 3. ♥ Q 9 4. ♦ A 10 7 5. ♣ 8 6 5.

The sequence One Club—One No-Trump therefore indicates a point count of 8-10. It will be seen that if the response is One Diamond and opener rebids One No-Trump, responder will be in some doubt as to whether to raise to Two No-Trumps. The response of One No-Trump describes his hand within narrow limits—always a step in the right direction—whereas the response of One Diamond has a far wider range and is limited only by the fact that the hand was not strong enough for a forcing take-out of Two Diamonds. But take away the King of Spades, and One Diamond is the right bid.

We now come to opener's action on the second round over a One No-Trump response. Unless the opening bid was One Club, responder's maximum is 8 points; therefore a raise in No-Trumps should not be given with less than a very good 16 points, for the combined count cannot otherwise be adequate. The following hands justify a raise after the sequence One Spade—One No-Trump:

1. ♠ A K Q 4 ♥ A 9 3 ♦ K J 10 7 ♣ 10 9

2. ♠ K Q J 9 3 ♥ J 10 ♦ A J 8 ♣ A 9 3

3. ♠ A K Q 6 4 2 ♥ Q 9 ♦ A 5 2 ♣ 10 7

Hand 1 is a good 17-count. To rebid Two

Diamonds is inept, for responder will either pass this amit bid or make a preference bid of Two Spades, which is the last thing opener wants to hear. If responder raises Two Diamonds to Three, opener is no better off; if he now bids Three No-Trumps, it will be a complete shot in the dark. The correct rebid is Two No-Trumps, and no importance should be attached to the weakness in Clubs; responder is entitled to have at least one suit well stopped.

On Hand 2 the thoughtless or selfish player will rebid Two Spades, which again will inevitably be passed. A little reflection shows that this hand is likely to produce as many tricks in No-Trumps as in Spades; it is a very good 16-count with its five-card suit and intermediate cards, and Two No-Trumps should be bid.

The third hand is an exceptional case. Nine players out of ten will make the jump rebid of Three Spades, simply because they are hypnotised by the powerful six-card suit. A sense of proportion would suggest that if, by some minor miracle, ten tricks can be made in Spades, it might be far more easy to run off nine tricks in No-Trumps. Once again, Two No-Trumps should be bid; some players on this sort of hand are in the habit of going straight to Three No-Trumps—and who can blame them?

After the sequence One Spade—One No-Trump—Two No-Trumps, responder should always bid Three with a count of 8 or a good 7.

With a balanced type of hand opener should raise a response of One No-Trump direct to Three if it counts up to 20 or a good 19; or if a point count deficiency is compensated by exceptional playing trick strength. Hands that justify a forcing rebid by opener in another suit form a separate subject that does not come within the scope of this series of articles on No-Trumps bidding.

PROTECTING ONE'S PROPERTY

By W. J. WESTON, Barrister-at-Law

IN most aspects of life self-help is laudable. The law itself approves of it, though, to be sure, with no great enthusiasm. For the law is reluctant to trust a man to be accuser, judge and avenger in his own cause; it is usually wisdom, as the phrase goes, not to take the law into your own hands.

Thus, although precedents in plenty justify a man in destroying a dog trespassing upon his land if such destruction is necessary to prevent the killing or maiming of animals thereon, the Courts consider that the proper remedy for trespass by domestic animals is a civil suit for damages. So it comes that the occupier of land, seeking to justify his shooting of homing pigeons feeding on his crops, has a heavy task. He must satisfy the Court that no practicable way other than the slaughter existed; and a judge, coolly weighing the facts in a quiet courtroom, is apt to take a view at variance with that of the man who was angered by the marauders.

Nevertheless, the law does, at times, countenance self-help. Indeed, it may decline to help a man wanting in his duty to himself. Thus, no legal obligation compels an occupier to fence his land. He may, if he chooses, leave it wide open to any intruder; and his legal rights against the trespasser upon it remain unimpaired. But where that land abuts upon a highway, the occupier is wise to fence, since if the land is unfenced, he cannot claim damages for injury committed on the land by animals straying from the highway.

"Good fences make good neighbours," you say, and, ignoring the question of legal obligation, you erect a fence. Fowls from beyond the fence scratch up the seeds you have so carefully sown in your garden. You add a strand of electrically-charged wire to prevent the depredations. Your neighbour's pet dog runs against the wire and receives a shock from which he dies. That is bad luck for the dog, and you become aware of a cooling of your neighbour's

previous kindly attitude towards you. But the law leaves you unscathed; what you have done is no more than a justifiable defence of your property. Judges whose decisions are entitled to the utmost respect have, indeed, held that a man is justified in keeping a savage dog or in affixing glass spikes to protect his property. The law does not, however permit him to set the dog on a trespasser or to drive the spikes against him.

You may take measures to prevent the trespasser from entering upon your land. And you yourself, or your agents, may remove the trespasser. But here again there is a stipulation. It is that of "using no more force than is needed"; *molliter manus posuit*, "he laid his hands with all gentleness upon the trespasser" is the phrase. You order him off your land; he demurs unduly; you collar him and march him off. And if he resists he makes himself liable to an action for assault.

Consider an instance. Harrison, not because he loved the grouse, but because he disliked the Duke of Rutland, tried to spoil the day's shoot. He stood upon the highway adjoining the Duke's grouse moors and waved the birds from the butts. The vision of the grouse is signally acute, and the shooters concealed in the butts had a disappointing time. The keepers removed Harrison, "gently laying their hands upon him," they said, and the drive was resumed. Harrison brought action against the Duke. The defence was that Harrison, being a trespasser, was justifiably removed. And the defence prevailed.

That Harrison was a trespasser admits of no doubt. For the highways running over the grouse moors were the Duke's property. That the highways were dedicated to the public for passing and re-passing does not affect ownership. He that enters upon a highway for a purpose other than passage may be a trespasser against the owner of adjoining land.

A GEORGE II WRITING-CABINET

By R. W. SYMONDS

I LITTLE suspected when I wrote an article on a mahogany writing-cabinet, which appeared in *COUNTRY LIFE* of May 7, 1948, that a cabinet of similar design, unquestionably the work of the same craftsman, was soon to make its appearance. This second cabinet is far richer and more splendid in design, for the ornament, instead of being carved mahogany, is of cast and finely chased brass, fire-gilded, and the metal inlay is of a most intricate and elaborate character.

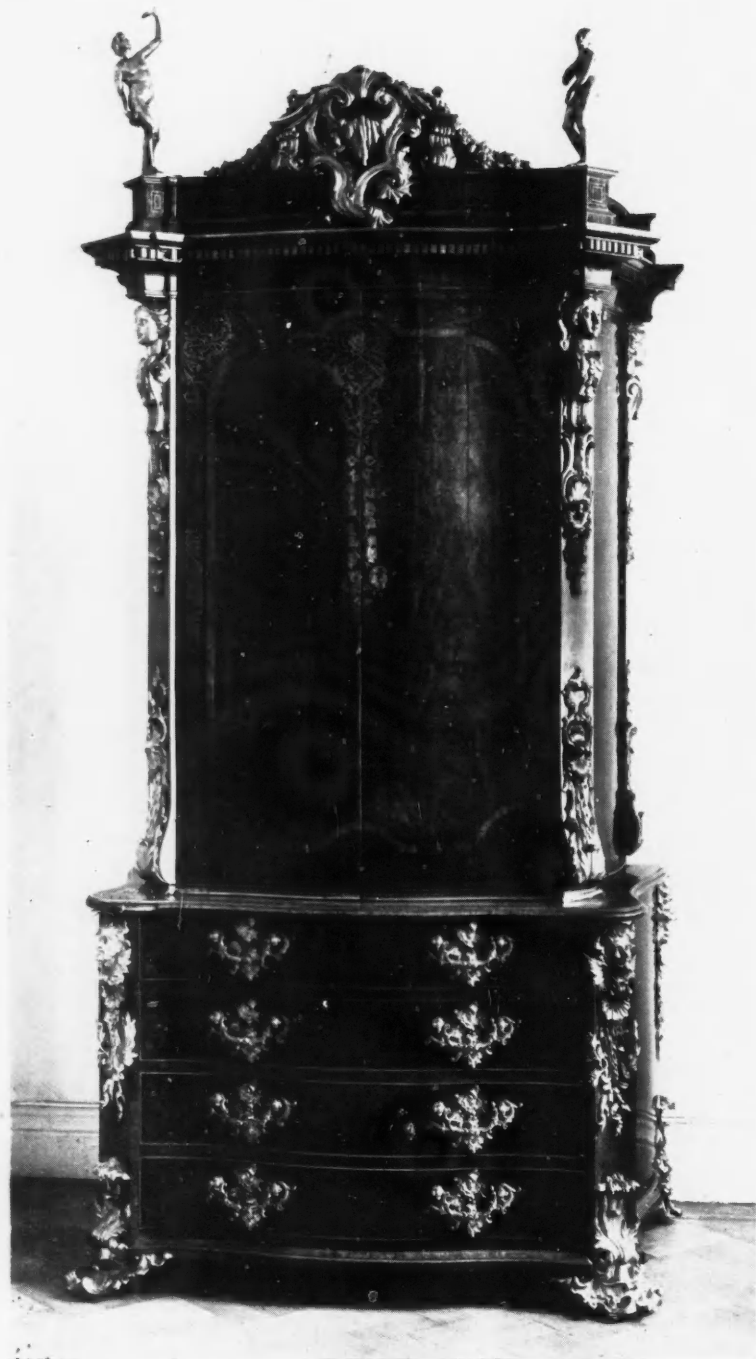
Owing to the design of the first cabinet being so unusual, I thought that it was made especially to suit the particular needs of a customer. The coming to light of a second example, however, suggests that the design was created by a cabinet-maker who probably made

a number of these cabinets with alternative treatments for his wealthy patrons who could afford such superlative craftsmanship.

This cabinet is a *tour de force* of the English cabinet-maker's craft. The fronts and sides are of serpentine form with pilasters on the four corners. The front pair in the lower part become, when pulled out, the supports to the writing drawer (see illustration). The interior to the upper part is entirely fitted with drawers, pigeon-



2.—A WRITING-CABINET OF SIMILAR DESIGN BUT WITH THE ORNAMENT OF CARVED MAHOGANY INSTEAD OF FIRE-GILT METAL. This cabinet was described in *COUNTRY LIFE*, May 7, 1948



1.—THE WRITING-CABINET CLOSED. THE ELEGANT SHAPE AND EXCELLENT PROPORTIONS INDICATE THE HAND OF A HIGHLY SKILLED DESIGNER. The ornament indicates that the cabinet was made between 1740 and 1750



3.—DETAIL SHOWING THE FINE QUALITY OF THE INLAID AND ENGRAVED BRASS WORK; ALSO THE CROSS-BANDED MOULDINGS

holes, ledger- or paper-racks, and central cupboard—not shelves alone as is the case of the first cabinet. The central cupboard slides out, after one has pressed a most ingenious hidden spring catch, to disclose at the back numerous secret drawers.

The four corner pilasters of both the upper and lower carcasses are decorated with terminal figures—a woman's head and the head of a bearded man, finely modelled and cast in brass chased and fire gilt. Above the cornice, following the serpentine line, is a low wooden pedestal, which is surmounted in the centre by a pediment formed by a chased and gilt mount, asymmetrical in its scroll and shellwork. The shellwork is in the form of clusters of small seashells which rest on the pedestal on both sides of the pediment. The ends of each of the pedestals support a gilt figure; a bacchant, with bunch of grapes and wine cup, and a Venus. The handles to the large drawers are massive and finely chased; they are asymmetrical in their exuberant Rococo design.

Metal mounts are so readily associated with French furniture that an English piece decorated with them is considered by many people to be foreign. The use of cast brass mounts by the English cabinet-maker from 1750 onwards was by no means uncommon. Such mounts usually adorned pieces which the cabinet-makers made in

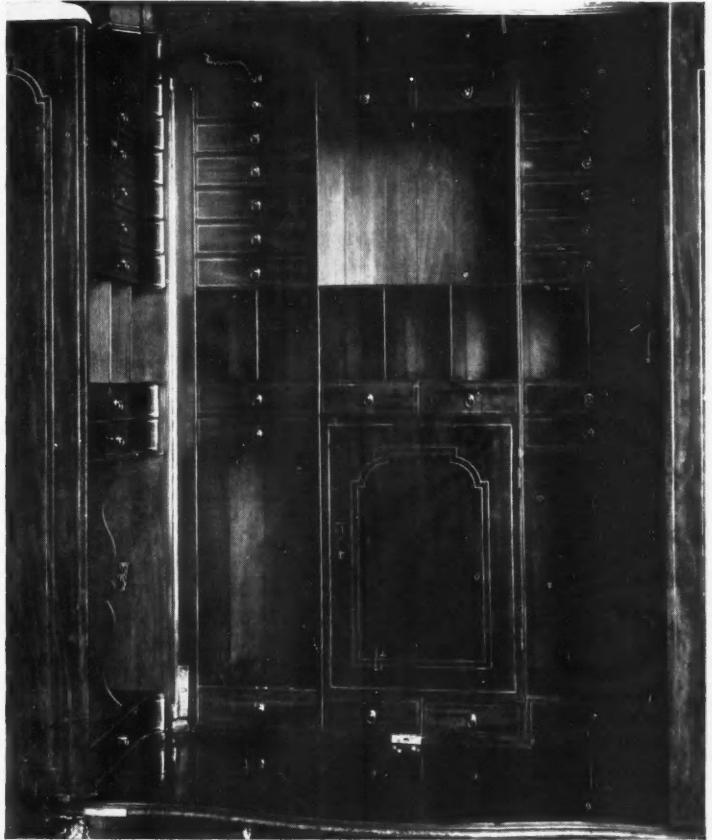


4.—THE CABINET WITH DOOR OPENED, DISCLOSING FITTED DRAWERS AND PIGEON-HOLES IN UPPER PART.

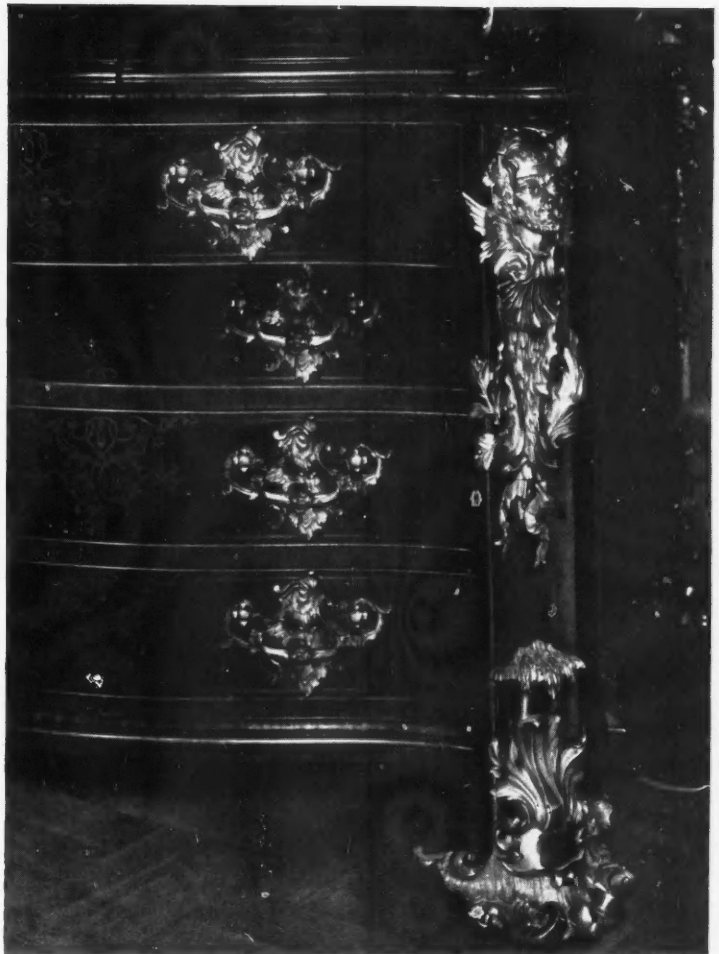
The writing drawer in the lower part is pulled out for use

the French taste. Finely chased mounts with mask heads and elaborate Rococo ornament, such as those that decorate this cabinet, are, however, most exceptional: for the English mount usually played a less important part, being confined to the corners of a commode or chest of drawers. They were also of a lower standard of quality than the French, not being chased or worked up after the casting, and were lacquered instead of being fire-gilt. Fire-gilding is a sign of high quality. In the third edition of his *Director* Chippendale mentions that the "ornamental parts" of some bureau dressing-tables and French commode tables are intended for "brass work," which he advises "should be modelled in Wax and then cast from these models."

Another outstanding feature of this magnificent writing-cabinet is the engraved brass inlay on the doors and the drawers in the base. It is of French arabesque design, and in this respect it is not in harmony of style with the mounts, which are in the later mode of the



5.—DETAIL SHOWING FITTED INTERIOR OF UPPER PART AND ALSO THE DRAWERS AND PIGEON-HOLES CONTAINED WITHIN THE PAIR OF DOORS. The lines on the drawer fronts are of inlaid brass and the edge of the partitioning is also bound with brass



6.—CORNER MOUNTS OF THE BASE AND THE LARGE ROCOCO HANDLES



7.—DETAIL SHOWING ONE OF THE HANDLES AND THE INTRICATE ENGRAVED INLAY ON THE DRAWER FRONT

Rococo. The head of Bacchus above two dragons, and bunches of grapes and vine leaves in the centre of the doors, seem inappropriate decoration for library furniture. But Mercury with his wand of power, the eagle, and the Watteauesque lady with the cornucopia at the bottom of the same doors (an arbitrary mixture) indicate that these engraved motifs were chosen at random.

The quality of the engraving is superlative, the smallest detail being meticulously rendered. A feature well worth indicating is the keyhole to the pair of doors. It is covered by a flush flap, camouflaged by a vine leaf. When a spring is released, by pressing with a pointed instrument a small spot hidden in the engraving, the flap springs open. Secret keyhole escutcheons of this type are sometimes found on walnut bureau-bookcases of exceptional quality.

The brass inlay was cut and laid by the cabinet-maker at the same time as the veneer. But the engraving of the inlay was the work of a specialist; for engraving was an important handicraft in the 18th century and was employed

on silver and gold as well as base metals. Possibly the fineness of the engraved work on this cabinet is due to its having been executed by a craftsman skilled in engraving silver and gold plate. No similar explanation can account, however, for the fine quality of the fire-gilt mounts, which would be considered of exceptional merit even in French furniture of this period. That the mounts were made in Paris specially for this cabinet seems therefore the probable explanation, particularly as this would then account for the difference in style between the inlay and the mounts, for in the 1740s the Rococo was in full flower in Paris.

The superb quality is also reflected in the use of material. The drawers throughout are constructed of mahogany; the carcass of the lower part is of best quality knotless deal; the partitioning and sides of the carcass are faced with mahogany. The carcass of the upper part is not visible, but that of the deep doors is of oak veneered with mahogany. The lower part has a panelled backboard of wainscot oak, and the upper part, because it also forms the backs to

the pigeon-holes and racks, of mahogany, so that the whole of the interior upper fitment is of the same wood.

The veneer on the doors and drawer fronts is of figured mahogany. The doors are panelled with a flush band of cross-grained wood of a reddish colour. All the mouldings, which are of the same reddish wood, are cross-banded, which is an unusual treatment with mahogany furniture and an indication of fine workmanship. The edge of the very thin mahogany partitioning which holds the small drawers and forms the pigeon-holes and racks in the interior fitment are bound with brass (Fig. 5). The cock beads around the fronts of the large drawers in the base are also of brass, and the fronts of the small fitment drawers and the sides of the doors of the upper part are panelled out with inlaid brass lines. The dentils of the cornice are of brass formed on a wood core.

It is not difficult to assign a date to this writing-cabinet. It must have been made during the decade of 1740 to 1750, when the Baroque was giving way to the new Rococo in fashionable London furniture.

As I have already said in my earlier article, no clue exists as to the maker or makers of this fine mahogany furniture decorated with brass inlay of the period of George II. Capt. Sir William Keith-Murray, the previous owner of the cabinet illustrated here, only knows that it was bought by a member of his family about two hundred years ago.

The identification of the maker of these two writing-cabinets would be of extreme interest to all students of English furniture; for they are proof that as early as the reign of George II there existed a standard of quality of cabinet work equal to the later furniture of Chippendale and other London cabinet-makers from designs of Robert Adam. When inlaid and metal-mounted this Adam furniture has always been looked upon as the high-water mark of English cabinet-making.

Now that these two cabinets have been recorded, is it too much to hope that a third will come to light with its maker's name attached in the form of an invoice or other documentary evidence?

HOLIDAY SHOOTS

By J. B. DROUGHT

NONE is so conservative of habit as country folk. Other high days and holidays may come and go unheeded, yet those who wrest a living from the soil still record the major events of their lives in relation to their incident before or after Christmas. It is the time appointed for the renewal of old memories and old friendships.

And so the old spirit of hospitality still prevails and the old customs of the countryside persist. Just as the Boxing Day meet of hounds attracts the biggest fields, so do the New Year shoots provide the cheeriest entertainment of the year.

For, although the cream of the shooting season has been skimmed long since, there is more to sport than the making of big bags. Half its charm lies in what someone has called "the complexion of the country."

Partridge coveys in grey outline against the darkening plough; pheasants climbing high above the yellow larches; snipe twisting up from a patchwork quilted bog, frost spangled in the sunshine—these are the delights of a January day.

Add to them still more familiar sights—plover wheeling and tumbling against a rain-washed sky; rooks in their hundreds flying homewards in the gathering dusk. And add again the charm of well-known haunts, where keepers, beaters, even the dogs, are old friends. Thus, and not by what he kills, does the sportsman measure his enjoyment.

That is why one marks those holiday fixtures as red-letter days in the shooting calendar. In many instances they are sacred to the rising generation. And, assertions to the contrary notwithstanding, there is no evidence that the modern youth, despite countless new diversions

from which to pick and choose, is any less sport-minded than was his sire at a like age.

In fact the average schoolboy, promoted in the Christmas holidays to the dignity of a twelve-bore gun, rejoices with an exuberance of spirit that his elders find it difficult to live up to, and not infrequently succeeds in wiping father's eye, to the unconcealed delight and somewhat Rabelaisian comment of the beating line.

None enjoys these days more than the motley crew of beaters in which the extremes of youth and old age meet. The local ancients, attracted partly by the prospect of a good meal well washed down and an extra tot "to keep the cold out" at the day's end, one never seems to see at other times of year.

Where and how they live no one knows precisely, and they must lie fallow, one imagines, during spring and summer, storing up energy against the recall to familiar duties. A trifle hard of hearing and a little contemptuous of a younger and more stiff-necked generation without the same capacity for slaking chronic thirsts, they are none the less the keeper's right-hand men in their knowledge of beating. And if their criticism of the luckless gun, who is, perhaps, experiencing one of his "off days," is more pungent than polite, it is none the less good-humoured.

Perhaps the bag will not be large, for youth must first be served; the older guns must needs supervise, and quick shooting and supervision do not go hand in hand. Yet the bag always seems to be a secondary consideration. More appropriate to the season is the spirit of good fellowship, and the schoolboy stories, differing scarcely at all from those of a bygone day.

Among my chief recollections of my old home is the farmer's and tenants' shoot. This

was an established custom, and, though dignified by the name of a shoot, was in reality a gathering of most of the farm-hands and neighbours intent on beating as many coverts as possible in the day for any living thing they might contain.

On these occasions formality goes by the board. Whether one shoots well or badly no one cares; the great thing is that everyone shall be amused and happy.

Even one might imagine sometimes the birds themselves absorb a little of the Christmas spirit. At least, come January, partridges and pheasants, and, indeed, all else with wings, contrive to give plenty of surprises. Listen, run, and break where least expected—such are the tactics of the back-end bird, though, paradoxically enough, he will occasionally elect to run the gauntlet of a line of guns. Here is a true tale of a year or two ago.

Six guns stood outside a wood, and guarding the right-hand salient was a youngster of sixteen. From a long way back came a veteran cock pheasant which, spotting the human batteries, wheeled and flew high along the covert's edge. Three professors missed him with both barrels. Numbers 4 and 5 got off one futile shot apiece a foot or more behind his tail and as he rose a little higher towards the corner, a voice was heard to offer ten to one that it was the bird.

"Done!" called back the schoolboy, a split second before the pheasant somersaulted in mid-air. A gorgeous fluke it may have been; it is even possible that he may never make a shot like that again, but no one ever parted with 10s. with greater goodwill than did the writer, whose eye was cleanly wiped on that occasion!

CORRESPONDENCE

A LUNAR RAINBOW

SIR,—At 6.40 a.m. on January 5 the light from the setting moon was particularly brilliant and the sky in the west very clear. Overhead were clouds, and a fairly heavy shower of rain was falling. The eastern sky was also clear, and here there was a lunar rainbow, a perfect arc of yellowish-white light, which was visible for about five minutes, and faded slowly as the rain clouds passed. I believe this to be a somewhat rare occurrence. —EDWARD F. BESWICK, 25, Tudor Drive, Otford, Kent.

PIED WOODPECKERS IN CENTRAL LONDON

SIR,—Apropos of Mr. Anthony Hoosey's recent letter about a greater spotted, or pied, woodpecker's having been seen near Marble Arch in 1948, in looking out of my window one afternoon recently I saw one of these birds on a tree opposite. It was there for an hour, so that I was able to observe it closely. —M. G. WYNNE DEMPSEY (Mrs.), C12, Sloane Avenue Mansions, S.W.3.

ANOTHER VIEW THAT RUSKIN LOVED

SIR,—I was much interested in the photograph in a recent issue of COUNTRY LIFE showing one of Ruskin's favourite views. He was also very fond of Chamonix, in France, and admired one view tremendously. The Ruskin Stone is to be found on this favourite spot. My photograph shows the view that Ruskin enjoyed so much during his stay at Chamonix. The Stone is only a few yards from where this photograph was taken. —E. EMRYS JONES, Old Colwyn, North Wales.

FOOLED BY A TROUT

SIR,—Major Jarvis's recent remarks in COUNTRY LIFE about Richard, the trout, opened an old sore. My husband has the fishing of a little river, often not more than a yard wide, that wanders and winds through the Berkshire meadows, and there are some good trout in it, fat,



VIEW FROM THE RUSKIN STONE, CHAMONIX, FRANCE

See letter: Another View that Ruskin Loved

his fly—and there was a very good hatch on at the time.

My husband was fishing with an artificial fly, but it was impossible to cast over him as he was too far underneath the low flat bridge. I was dapping with the natural fly, so it was decided that I should try to float one over him from above. I tiptoed on to the upstream side of the bridge and let one go, hoping against hope that it would float and flap nicely over George's head. It did, and he grabbed it like a tiger. Unfortunately I was so occupied in getting the fly to go right that I forgot the weight of the

at nothing we put down: he just let it pass and took the next one, unattached to any line. At last he went off the rise and all was quiet.

We never saw George again and came to the conclusion that some farm hand heard his noisy rise and probably got a gun and shot him. —S. S. SAXBY (Mrs.), The Gables, Appleton, Berkshtre.

A COUNTRY HOUSE INDEX

SIR,—I have been privileged to examine a remarkable undertaking—a card index of notes on 50,000 country houses in England, Scotland,

includes large numbers which for various reasons are presumably not suitable for description in your pages.

As a life-time reader of COUNTRY LIFE, I naturally tried to catch Mr. Bryant unawares, asking to be shown what particulars he had got of places which I know you have not published. I failed to catch him out. In several of these instances he was able to produce a photograph or print of the building, once a portrait of its owner, together with brief historical particulars and cross references to books or other sources of fuller information. Of others, on which I happened to know that published information is defective, he had obtained a suggestive line, if not more. In a third category, comprising small houses of which I admit I had never heard, the cards which I inspected at least served to record the existence of an old house and sometimes proved to be as informative as in the case of well-known places. A fourth category referred to particulars of houses no longer existing.

The entries for houses on which descriptions have been published within the last fifty years or so summarised accurately the historical and architectural facts and gave the main sources for reference. I also saw a number of photographs of pictures of unidentified houses. One which puzzled me is the enclosed photograph of a water-colour by J. S. Cotman, now in the possession of Colonel D. V. Phelps. Probably a reader of COUNTRY LIFE will be able to say what house it represents.

My purpose, however, in drawing attention to the Bryant index is principally with a view to its future. To have compiled even a list of 50,000 family homes in Great Britain and Ireland would be an achievement. To have made one containing in addition so much information on a large proportion of 50,000 is surely a remarkable achievement—the more so since, I gather, it represents only the spare-time occupation of a normally busy man. Its compiler is the man best



WATER-COLOUR BY J. S. COTMAN OF AN UNIDENTIFIED COUNTRY HOUSE

See letter: A Country House Index

pink and delicious, but they will not move except to a may-fly. One lovely evening last May we arrived at the old cow bridge and had started putting our rods up, when we heard a loud splash under the bridge, and there was George, who we estimated weighed 2 to 3 lb. He was fairly crashing at every may-fly that came directly over his head; he never moved, was well under the bridge and never missed

trout and had not a strong enough hold of my rod. The weight of the fish dashed the rod down against the bridge and the jerk was too much; the hook, in spite of being a new one, parted from the cast and all was over.

Within five minutes George was rising as before, just as keen and in exactly the same spot. We rested him a bit and then attacked again, but he knew too much and would look

Wales and Ireland, compiled by Mr. Gilbert Bryant. Your own index, Sir, of the articles that have been published in COUNTRY LIFE since 1897, and which must number over a thousand, is no doubt the best handy list of country houses of architectural distinction. This file, aiming at forming a complete annotated catalogue of country houses, manor houses, and vicarages, etc., built before 1837,

aware of how much still remains to be done before completeness is even brought within sight—an aim probably unrealisable within a single lifetime. But even as it stands the file can be regarded as a work of national—indeed international—value.

Whether or no the country houses of Britain represent a form of civilisation that is finished, it will be, in the future, exceedingly useful to

historians and researchers throughout the English-speaking world to have so compact an index to the homes of the families who not only made England but to a large extent built the British Commonwealth and helped to found the greatness of the United States. This view is confirmed by several enquiries which Mr. Bryant has received, including one from an American University and another from New Zealand, as to whether copies of the index can be made available for libraries in those countries.

It would seem, therefore, that a point has now been reached where, if this index is to be put fully to the uses which undoubtedly await it, some assistance is required beyond the resources of its begetter. In the first place, a great many references need to be completed either by research or enquiry, which requires man-hours, and so involves the question of cost. In the second, if copies are to be made available, the typing and duplicating of the cards, at present in script, and the photography of illustrations, are necessary. The information contained in the duplicate files—accessible in certain institutions spread over the English-speaking world—might well be supplemented, from time to time, by local research, which suggests the desirability of the exchange of this additional information between the possessors of the various copies.

The cost involved, even by the full scheme envisaged, would be little more than the salary of a typist-secretary, and would be inconsiderable if shared between, say, six institutions in this country and overseas. The interest aroused by the index already has been so widespread that, if its aims and requirements are better known, I cannot help thinking that the means will be found for prosecuting the work.—CURTIS CROWE, *London*.

SLED v. CART

SIR,—To those counties which have been recently mentioned in your columns as using sleds on the hills must be added Staffordshire. The accompanying photograph shows a farmer carrying lime in the Churnet Valley near its source on the Roaches, in North Staffordshire.

The sled is much easier to load than a cart, and a detachable back on the box makes it unnecessary to lift the lime when unloading.—F. RODGERS, 94, *Brown-ing Street, Derby*.

A CURIOUS MEMORIAL

SIR,—I thought that your readers might be interested in the enclosed photographs of an unusual memorial, made of brass, in the church at Mulbarton, Norfolk. A Holy Bible is built into a pillar, and upon it rests the memorial, in the shape of a book; it is hinged, and my second photograph shows it in the open position.

The inscription inside commemorates Sarah Scargill, "cousin to Sir William le Neve, who was Hierauld to King Charles The First of Blessed Memory," and wife of Daniel Scargill, rector of the parish of Mulbarton. Mrs. Scargill died in 1680.—J. DENTON ROBINSON, 19, *Langholm Crescent, Darlington, Durham*.

LIVERPOOL AND SIR WILLIAM TEMPLE

SIR,—In Mr. Hussey's delightful article *Templum Restauratum* (COUNTRY LIFE, November 25, 1949), he referred to the keystone inscribed *Deus*



SPREADING LIME FROM A SLED IN THE CHURNET VALLEY, NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE

See letter: Sled v. Cart

nobis haec otia fecit. I was most interested in this, because it is the official motto of the City of Liverpool.

The earliest known use of this motto by Liverpool was in 1725, when it was inscribed below the town's coat on a map of the town commissioned

connection between Temple bearing the motto and Liverpool adopting it. It is 55 years between 1670 and the earliest known representation of the motto on a Liverpool document.

If any reader could give me further information, such as when Temple adopted the motto, I should be most grateful.—STANLEY A. HARRIS, 167, *Booker Avenue, Liverpool, 18*.

EARLY 19th-CENTURY COMPENDIA

SIR,—I find Lady Ingram's letter in your issue of December 16, 1949, about her 19th-century compendium most interesting, as I possess a compendium very similar to that described by her. Mine, however, is smaller, being only 10½ ins. high, 12 ins. wide and 7½ ins. deep. It is covered in crimson leather, and has gilt embossed doors. The corners of each are decorated with ormolu medallions and there is filigree decoration in the middle of each. The handles at the sides are in the form of rings suspended from a leaf pattern plate and the feet are of a somewhat ornate leaf pattern also. On the top there is a small oval plate, but I cannot say if a lion such as your correspondent mentions, or other ornament, is missing or not. The top opens as a hinged lid, but has been locked ever since the compendium came into my possession, and so far I have not been able to open it.

The doors conceal eight heavily gilt dummy volumes—*The History of England*, vols. 1 and 2, *The History of Persia*, vols. 1 and 2, *Rowe's Works*, vols. 1 and 2, and two volumes of plays.

These volumes conceal four drawers, but I find it difficult to decide their purpose. The first is lined with blue satin and much subdivided; the second is also subdivided and is partly lined in blue satin and partly painted in blue; the third, unlined and unpainted, contains divisions for holding two glass ink-pots and a pen-tray, and has a larger space behind; the fourth contains no divisions, but is lined and padded with blue velvet. There is no fifth drawer below the doors, as in the compendium previously described.

If my recollection is correct, I have seen one other very similar object in the Museum at Colchester.—GERALD E. BUNCOMBE, *Springfield, Ashdon, Saffron Walden, Essex*.

From The Baroness de Robeck

SIR,—I have a 19th-century compendium similar to Lady Ingram's, but smaller inasmuch as it is 12 ins. high, 11 ins. wide and 8 ins. deep. It is covered in red leather stamped with a gold design and has ornamented brass ring handles. Mine also has a top which opens by pressing a secret catch to reveal a jewel case lined with blue satin. The doors under conceal six leather-covered dummy volumes—Cowper's *Poems*, *Hudibras* and *Junius*. These are really three drawers, the top one lined with blue paper, the second lined and fitted as a work box, and the third a cedar-wood fitted writing-case with two glass ink bottles with Sheffield plate tops. The compendium is beautifully made and the leather work is particularly fine.—K. DE ROBECK, *Gowran Grange, Naas, Co. Kildare, Eire*.

ROBINS WITH A PASSION FOR BATHING

SIR,—I was interested to read the recent letter in COUNTRY LIFE on the habits of robins. There are several frequenting this garden, and I have noticed that it is always a robin which is to be seen last, pecking about on the lawn, at dusk, finally taking a thorough bath, however cold the weather, before flying off to bed.—A. M. RICHARDSON, *The Rectory, Kingham, Oxfordshire*.

INTELLIGENCE IN HORSES

SIR,—With regard to Mr. R. S. Summerhays's reply to my recent letter about intelligence in horses, may I add that the ponies in question did not appear to be frightened by the dog. I have no doubt that they all saw him, but they continued grazing, and none (Continued on page 111)



BRASS MEMORIAL TABLET IN THE FORM OF A BOOK AT MULBARTON CHURCH, NORFOLK, 1680. CLOSED AND (right) OPEN

See letter: A Curious Memorial

by the Corporation. But the Council minutes have no entry relating to the adoption of a motto, and it is not known when and why the motto was adopted.

I have been trying for some years to solve the problem, but without success. I was surprised, therefore, to read the passage in the article, because Fairbairn's *Crests* has it that the motto is borne only by Liverpool and the Irish family of Bolger.

The surprising thing is that Sir William Temple was a candidate for a Liverpool Parliamentary seat in 1670. He was a friend of Caryl, Viscount Molyneux, of Croxteth, near here, an ancestor of the present Earl of Sefton. The question now naturally arises as to whether there is any





HIGHWAYS AND HIGHWAYMEN Claude Du Vall

'... he robbed her, but paid for his dance'

History relates of Claude Du Vall, one of the bolder and more handsome gentlemen of the road, that one evening he overtook a coach on Blackheath intending to rob the travellers of the £400 they carried. The lady in the coach, seeing Du Vall and his men, played upon a flageolet to show she was not afraid. Du Vall, as a compliment to her courage, played a little tune upon a similar instrument as he rode up to the coach. Then he asked her to grant him the honour of a dance. She consented, and Du Vall "performed marvels,

the best masters, except those that are French, not being able to show such footing as he did in his great French riding boots." Du Vall then took £100 from the travellers but paid for the dance by allowing them to retain the remaining £300. These picturesque scoundrels, who once made travelling an ordeal, are dead and gone. But to-day, thanks to John Boyd Dunlop's invention of the pneumatic tyre, we can travel in safety and comfort past the places that once echoed to the dreaded cry of "Stand and Deliver!"



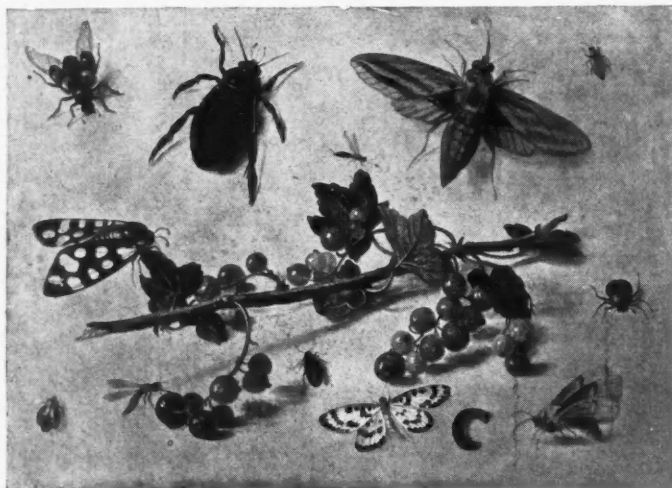
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(1626-1679)

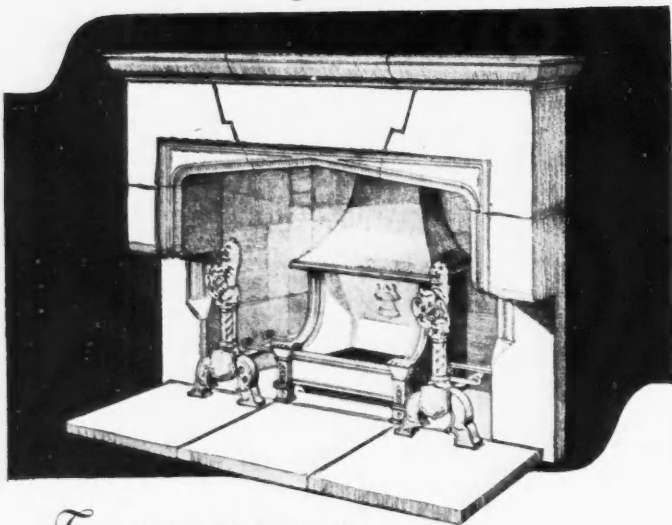
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of them was very close to any other. They did not "bunch themselves together," but ran as fast as they could to the mare immediately they heard her cry of distress and formed a straight line between her and the dog. This effectively screened her and the foal from his sight and enabled them to gallop away in the opposite direction.—ALFRED V. PAWSON, *Nynehead Court, Wellington, Somerset.*

THE ORIGIN OF ROUND HOUSES

SIR,—A correspondent asked recently who was responsible for erecting the grim places of confinement known as round houses. They were built by the Vestry, or by the Lord of the Manor, or by public subscription.

In a Vestry minute book of this parish—Bentley, Hampshire—is this record of the building of a cage for the village:

Nov. 30, 1831, a Parish meeting—called by the Vestry—was held under the chairmanship of the Revd. H. J. Austen (minister in charge of the Parish, and a brother of the famous Jane) to decide on measures in connection with the healthiness of the Parish.

It was resolved that application be made to the Bishop of Winchester, as Lord of the Manor of Bentley, to cause a cage to be erected for the use of the Parish as it does not at present possess means adequate to the suppression of beer and profligacy. It was resolved the Revd. Mr. Austen be requested to draw up the application to the Bishop.



AN OLD PRINT (1761) OF THE MARKET HOUSE, FARNHAM, SURREY, WITH THE CASTLE BEYOND

See letter: *The Origin of Round Houses*

The Bishop replied to this from Farnham Castle, on December 14, 1831:

I am sorry I cannot comply with your request to erect a cage at Bentley . . . with respect to the cage at Farnham . . . it formed part of the Market House (shown in the accompanying photograph) and is leased by the Bishop to the Parish, by whom it is used as a place of confinement.

In 1833 the Bentley cage was built by public subscription raised by the Parish on the initiation of the Vestry.

The word "cage" was applied to those places of confinement which had an iron grille.—A. G. WADE (Major), *Ash Cottage, Bentley, Hampshire.*

VICISSITUDES OF A ROMAN ALTAR

SIR,—The accompanying photograph

is of a Roman altar in the church of Tretire, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire, which has had a curious history. As will be seen, the middle part has been rounded, and the top has been hollowed out as if to form a stoup.

Mr. Webb, who was rector of Tretire from 1812 to 1870, found the altar in two pieces; the inscribed top was being used by the village doctor for pounding herbs in a cottage close to the church. The inscription, which states "Beccicus dedicated this altar to the God of the Three Ways," points to the existence of Roman roads in the neighbourhood. There is a tradition that other "stones with writing on them" used to be seen at a place called the Geer Cop in the neighbourhood; this may well be the site of a Roman camp.—M. W., *Hereford.*

FROM TSARIST RUSSIA TO JAPAN

SIR,—While serving with the British Commonwealth Occupation Forces in Japan, in 1947, I bought in Kyoto a Russian enamelled brass cross, a photograph of which I enclose. The cross is enclosed in a box, presumably made for it after its arrival in Japan. On the lid of this box there is some Japanese printing, which has been translated as follows: "This cross was left behind at the Russian Headquarters Camp near Hoten, Manchuria, which came in hand by the 4 Division, 8 Infantry Regiment (Osaka) in March, 1905. It is said to be one of the Russia's religion 'Harist,' which they respected very much. May 1907—Osaka Inf. Capt."

Last November I sent the cross to the Department of British and Mediaeval Antiquities of the British Museum, and the following information was received in reply: "It is a typical example of an inscribed Russian brass, enamelled cross as an object of devotion in the Greek Church and is probably 17th or 18th century. The upper part shows the Almighty and the dove with angels, the main portion having the crucified Christ with figures apparently of the

sun and moon and the skull of Adam. There is a description of a similar, but not identical, cross in the collection here, in the Museum Guide to the Early Christian and Byzantine Antiquities, 2nd edition, 1921, p. 167."

I am wondering if any of your readers has any knowledge of or information about such crosses and whether there is a collection of them in England.—W. J. PARSONS (Flight-Sergeant), *R.A.F., Shinfield Park, Reading, Berkshire.*

LETTERS IN BRIEF

Unidentified Verse.—The verse submitted for identification by Lady Alexandra Haig-Thomas in your issue of December 30, 1949, is the second verse of *The Fiftieth Birthday of Agassiz* by H. W. Longfellow. There are four more verses—R. BUSHE-FOX (Miss), *Ben Lomond House, Downshire Hill, N.W.3.*

[We thank also several other correspondents for writing to identify this poem. Jean Louis Rodolphe Agassiz (1807-73) was a Swiss naturalist who emigrated to America and became Professor of Zoology at Harvard University.—Ed.]

Unusual Telegraph Poles.—In *Motoring Notes* of your issue of December 23, 1949, there is a photograph of the London-Glasgow road on Douglas Moor, Lanarkshire. This



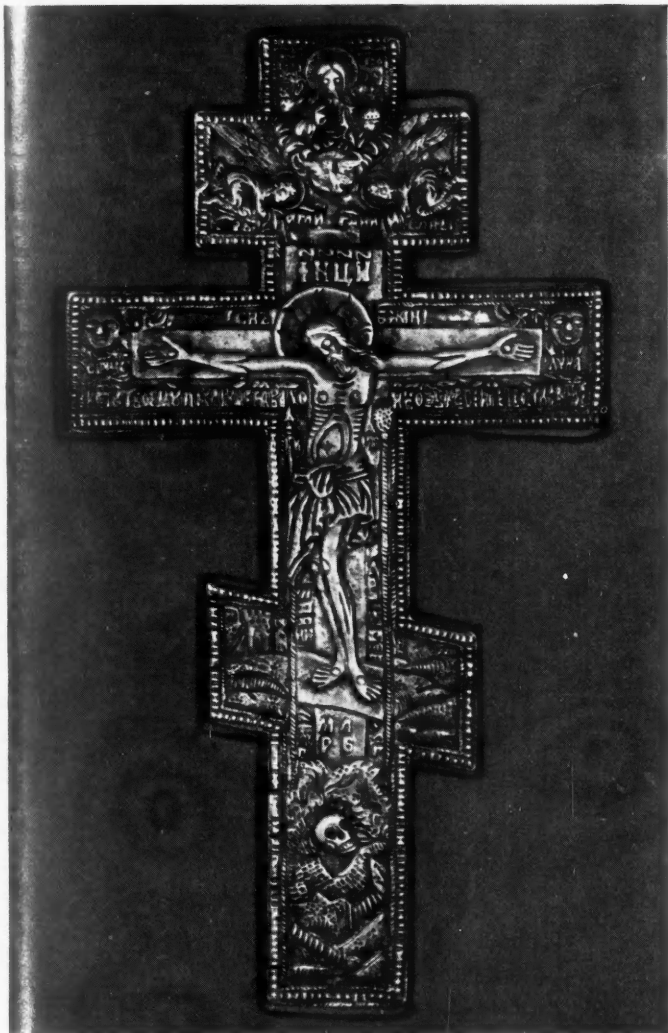
ROMAN ALTAR IN THE CHURCH AT TRETIRE, HEREFORDSHIRE

See letter: *Vicissitudes of a Roman Altar*

shows telegraph poles arranged not singly but in threes, with the wires attached to the short horizontal beams between them, so as to withstand wind pressure. Is there any other place in the British Isles where this plan has been adopted?—RONALD N. CARR, *Newbiggin Hall, Carlisle.*

Penshurst Place.—Lord de L'Isle and Dudley, commenting on the article, *The Country House Visit*, published in the *COUNTRY LIFE Annual*, reminds us that Penshurst Place has been regularly open to the public for well over a century, with the exception of the war years. The first visitors' book is dated 1822.

It has been brought to our notice that a statement in our issue of December 2, 1949, concerning the disappearance of the original Coalport china factory, in Shropshire, might be taken to mean that the business has ceased to exist. This is not so. The company is still flourishing and hopes to celebrate its bi-centenary next year.



RUSSIAN ENAMELLED BRASS CROSS WHICH CAME INTO JAPANESE HANDS DURING THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR IN 1905

See letter: *From Tsarist Russia to Japan*

PIRATE OF THE NORTH

Written and Illustrated
by GUY B. FARRAR



1.—AN ARCTIC SKUA LAUNCHING AN ATTACK ON AN INTRUDER INTO ITS TERRITORY IN THE SHETLANDS

"BY its general grace and beauty, by its sportings and its piracies, its speed of flight and the rushing sweep of its attack, this bird must ever live in the memories of those who have known it: but most of all it will live there by the inspiring music of its wild cry." Thus wrote Edmund Selous in describing the Arctic skua in his book, *A Bird Watcher in the Shetlands*.

Grace the Arctic skua certainly has! Its long, pointed wings and elongated central tail feathers give it a tern-like elegance when flying. In my notes, written while I have been watching skuas, I have compared them to terns in silhouette and to falcons in their ease and mastery of flight. Regular wing-beats followed by long glides give these pirates a peculiarly hawk-like appearance in the air.

The music of their wild cry which Selous found so inspiring did not impress me. I have likened it to the noise made by a couple of amorous cats spending a night on the tiles. "Eee-aaow! Eee-aaow! Eee-aaow!", the screaming catcalls echo endlessly across the moor, a dirge for lost souls, but surely not music, unless it be the music of the damned.

But the Scootie Allen, the name given to the Arctic skua by Shetlanders, is an interesting bird both to watch and to photograph. It really is Arctic, for its breeding-grounds embrace the high north in both the Old and the New Worlds. A few eccentrics have chosen to nest as far south as the northernmost fringe of the British Isles, but it is only in the Shetlands, Orkneys, and in the extreme north of Scotland that they can be classed as regular nesters, arriving at the end of April or early May and departing by mid-August. When not on their

moorland breeding-grounds, they become pelagic wanderers over southern oceans; and their migratory flights sometimes bring them within range of our foreshores, where they may be seen in late summer or early autumn, generally in company with terns, on whom they practise their piracy.

The Arctic skua is said to be dimorphic, but in fact at least three colour phases can easily be identified in the field. After studying

Shetland Arctic skuas for some time, I came to the conclusion that four phases were distinguishable—a very light, a medium light, a medium dark, and a very dark.

In the Shetland colony in which I worked the very light phase (Fig 2) was the rarest, only two or three birds qualifying for this category, and the very dark was almost as scarce. Most birds belong to the intermediate light or dark

(Continued on page 115)



2.—A VERY LIGHT MALE AT ITS NEST

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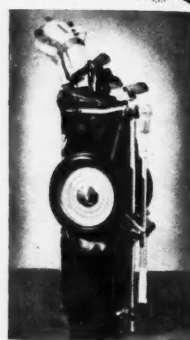
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3.—MEDIUM-LIGHT MALE ARCTIC SKUA SITTING. This bird is one of the pair illustrated in Fig. 4

phases, of which there were very many variations. As it is impossible to distinguish the sex of skuas, the proportion of light or dark males could in the field be only a matter of conjecture, but at the nests I photographed I felt that the light bird was the male, as the greater share of incubation was performed by the darker partner.

The proportion of dark to light birds was about five to one, a slightly larger ratio than that noted by some observers. At the southern extremity of the breeding-grounds of Arctic skuas the dark phase predominates; its numbers lessen in more northerly situations until in Greenland the light phase is said to number ninety per cent. of the total breeding birds.

The minimum breeding territory required by a Shetland Arctic skua was, I found, not easy to define. Certain areas of moorland were preferred, but the colonies, if they could be called colonies, were spread over an extensive area, the nearest nests found being two hundred

yards apart and in most cases nearly twice this distance.

In view of the large predominance of medium dark birds, the commonest pairing was, naturally, medium dark and medium dark and the rarest medium light and medium light; in fact I noted only one pair of which both were of the medium light phase. Medium light and medium-dark was a fairly common partnership; one of the pairs whose nests we photographed was the rare mixture of very light and very dark.

To qualify for what I termed the very light phase, the plumage of the throat, neck and breast had to be spotlessly white in strong contrast to the dark brown mantle and crown. Medium-light birds all exhibited traces of pale brown, grey, or buff on their breasts and often long-pointed yellow feathers on the back of their necks. The medium-light bird which I photographed (Fig 3) had a slate grey mantle, his neck and upper breast were tinged with yellow, and a profusion of golden feathers

adorned the back of his neck. Only his cap and tail feathers showed the dark brown tint, the normal colouring of Arctic skuas. He was indeed an unusually handsome pirate.

The dark phase showed less variation, most birds falling in this category being dull brown with lighter, greyish markings on the throat and breast and sometimes yellow feathers on the back of the neck. The very dark phase, the rarest variety of all, was a rich dark brown with a distinct purple sheen in sunlight, giving the appearance of a bronze statue. This difference, although striking at close quarters was impossible to show in a monochrome photograph.

Normally the young when hatched are clothed in chocolate-coloured down, tending to greyish brown on the face and underparts, but one nestling I photographed (Figs. 4 and 5) had prominent white shoulders, white spots under each eye, and unusually pale down of a greyish brown colour. The *Handbook of British Birds* gives the colour of nestlings as dark brown only so that I imagine this white-shouldered youngster must have been a very unusual colour phase in down. His parents (Fig 4) were the medium-light male already described and a medium-dark female without any unusual characteristic.

The hatching period, from the "starring" of the first egg to the last chicks leaving the nest, occupied about one hundred hours at the nest under observation. Tiny cracks appeared in both eggs forty-eight hours before the emergence of the first chick, and the second chick hatched on the following day. The weather at the time of hatching was mild for the Shetlands, with strong sun.

Food was given to the newly-hatched youngster about nine hours after its emergence from the shell. By that time it had become very active and signified its desire to be fed by a querulous cry whenever either of its parents approached the nest and by trying to seize their beaks as they bent over it. The food, consisting of a half-digested brown coloured substance produced by regurgitation, was held in the beak by the parent bird and the chick was encouraged to pick off bits.

While one parent was feeding the youngster the other invariably tried to eat the food—a curious happening that I have not previously



4.—MEDIUM-LIGHT MALE AND MEDIUM-DARK FEMALE ARCTIC SKUAS WITH AN UNUSUALLY PALE NESTLING. (Right) 5.—CLOSE-UP OF THE NESTLING. It had prominent white shoulders and a white spot under each eye



6.—VERY DARK FEMALE WITH CHICK AND CHIPPING EGG

noted in any other species. Selous has recorded a skua feeding its mate by regurgitation before coition, so that the sight of the nestling being fed may have awakened nuptial reactions. Both birds displayed considerable excitement which scarcely seemed attributable solely to the feeding of a newly-hatched chick. The food appeared to be collected entirely from the surrounding heather and was probably vegetable matter and insects, such as spiders or mosquitoes.

The ground on which these skuas nested consisted of an undulating stretch of moorland, with moss and lichen everywhere choking the heather and in some places even destroying it. The only ornamentation of this semi-Arctic flow ground was the tiny golden blossoms of creeping tormentil (Fig 7) and the azure blue flowers of vernal squill, which grew in profusion on the barren, stony surface. In damper places the marsh orchis (Fig. 8) showed pinkish purple against the vivid green of wet moss.

Shetlanders say that trolls dance on the moorlands in the twilight of a northern summer night. Although we never witnessed the Dance

of the Trolls, we watched with interest and amusement the dance of the Scootie Allens as we approached their nest. This dance is part of the elaborate injury-feigning display designed to draw an intruder away from the spot where the two eggs lie exposed in a shallow saucer of moss. It begins with a slow beating of wings, the bird standing on the ground facing the intruder. A nearer approach causes a slight acceleration of wing beats sufficient to lift the bird a few inches from the ground, with its black legs and feet dangling in the air. The spectacle of both birds jumping into the air every few seconds combined with the slow rhythmic beating of their wings is extremely comic. They look like those fascinating toys that dance on the pavement when jerked up and down by a piece of wire and used to be sold by street vendors.

As the nest is more closely threatened by invasion, the skuas' dance becomes more frenzied, eventually developing into the usual injury-feigning display, in which the

bird lies on one side and flaps its free wing, at the same time uttering a series of shrill squeaks.

If no notice is taken of this spectacular performance, the bird, tiring of deception, takes to the air and begins a fierce dive-bombing attack on one, in which the line of approach is generally from behind one's back. With a hiss like that of a sabre cutting the air, it flashes past one's head, sometimes inflicting a glancing blow with wings or feet, and the bombing attacks continue until one is clear of its territory. I was struck three times by one particularly aggressive bird as I moved away from its nest. If, however, a camera is raised to eye-level and pointed at the attackers, their courage usually fails.

On the island in question, Arctic skuas are said to be increasing, but taking the Shetlands as a whole I should say that their numbers remain fairly constant. They are certainly not good neighbours on a moor, and wheatear, golden plover, red-throated divers, and even common gulls pay toll in eggs and young to these Shetland pirates. We saw several parties of three birds, obviously non-breeders, whose wanderings across the moorland caused despondency and alarm to many nesters, but the presence of a hide proved an unfailing protection for the nest near which it had been erected.

In his own place, the barren moorlands of the north, and in reasonable numbers, the Scootie Allen is an ornamental feature of the landscape, but if his presence causes the disappearance of more attractive bird life which

desperately needs protection, then the colonies of Arctic skuas should be reduced in numbers to prevent their becoming a menace to their less aggressive neighbours.

Eee-aaow! Eee-aaow! I can still hear the wailing cries ringing across the windy uplands and see again the black graceful silhouette gliding low over the heather searching for the unguarded nest.

*Oh, better far to live and die
Under the brave black flag I fly*

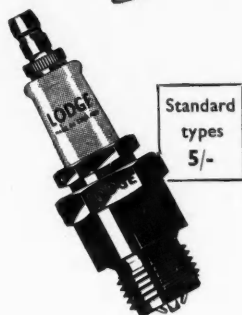
The slopes of Vord Hill would be a less interesting, if more peaceful, place without these feathered pirates of the North.



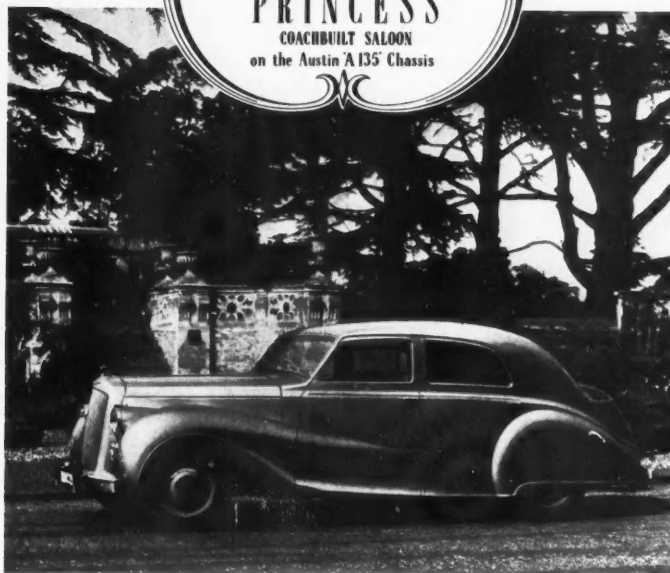
7 and (right) 8.—TWO OF THE FEW FLOWERS THAT GROW IN THE SKUAS' NESTING HAUNTS: CREEPING TORMENTIL AND MARSH ORCHIS

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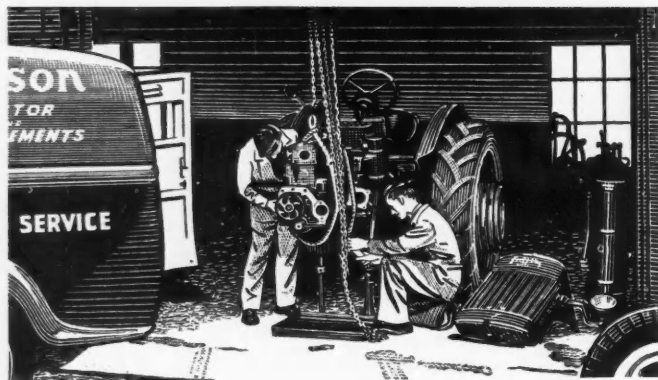
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FARMING NOTES

TRAVELLING FARMERS

IT is always stimulating to see farming in other countries where conditions are more or less like ours, and for the younger farmers it is particularly useful to stay on farms abroad and take part in the daily working life. Some more farmers will be helped to do this by the travelling scholarships which the Nuffield Foundation are providing for young practical farmers to travel abroad. The scheme is to run to 1954 and £21,400 has been set aside for it. Seven or eight scholarships a year will be offered, each for not less than six months and during a scholar's absence the National Farmers' Union will, if necessary, help to look after his farm. On return he will be expected to impart to his fellow farmers the new ideas and knowledge gained from his experience abroad. The address of the Nuffield Foundation is 12, Mecklenburgh Square, London, W.C.1. I have no doubt there will be many wanting to take advantage of this offer.

Summer Grazing

THE future prospects of beef production should be good. All the cattle we can fatten in this country will be wanted and with more calves being reared, though not all of them are of real beef type, we can expect a fall in store cattle prices that should give graziers better returns than they have had in the last year or two. A study of grass-fed cattle in the East Midlands made by Mr. A. J. Wynne (Nottingham University School of Agriculture, Loughborough, 2s. 6d.) shows that in 1946 21 bunches of cattle yielded profits, before charging overhead costs, of up to £3 a head. There were 20 bunches showing profits of from £3-£6 and only 14 showing profits of over £6 a head. In 1947, in spite of the increases in prices granted in mid-season, 13 bunches showed profits of not more than £3, 6 bunches showed £3-£6 and 11 bunches more than £6 a head. In 1946 conditions were good and grass was plentiful. In 1947 the spring growth of grass was delayed by cold weather and then the summer drought and the hot sunshine resulted in bare pastures and the average live-weight increase was lower. While concentrated feeding-stuffs are short and expensive it is unlikely that supplementary feeding of cattle on grass will pay, but except on the best grazing there are some cattle that must be hand-fed if they are to come to a reasonable grading standard by the end of the season.

"Ignorant Delight"

THE expression "ignorant delight" was used by Sir John Maud in his recent Sunday night radio talk to describe the pleasure he derives from the country. He spoke for many townspeople who have no farming knowledge about the significance of what is seen from the road or the train. Mr. Sidney Rogerson in words and Mr. Charles Tunncliffe in illustrations have produced *Both Sides of the Road* (Collins, 21s.) for those not content with "ignorant delight" who are curious to know the mysteries of farming as seen on both sides of almost any road in the British Isles. Technically the information is correct and it is presented in a way that will appeal to those who buy or borrow this generous book.

100 Gallons a Cow

THROUGH artificial insemination the Milk Marketing Board is trying to put the best possible pedigree bulls within the reach of every dairy farmer. It is difficult to predict the amount of improvement to be expected in milk yields, but from the

pedigree analysis of the bulls the Board is using and from the knowledge of the level of production of the herds taking this service it seems safe to estimate an average increase of 100 gallons per cow a year and of from 0.2 per cent. to 0.4 per cent. in butter content for the first generation of Friesian cattle. Close on 1,200 offers of bulls had to be screened to get the 147 at present in use at Board centres. To get the best possible bulls the Board is contracting ahead with some of the leading breeders for calves born and also arranging matings between outstanding bulls and outstanding cows, taking an option on the bull calves. It is of course the small cow-keeper who stands to benefit most from this new service. He has never been able to afford to buy a good pedigree bull and now he knows that if, for example, he has 12 cows his breeding fees for a first-class bull will be £15 a year. He could not hope to rear, buy or feed a bull, even a third-rate one, for anything like this sum.

Open-Cast Coal

ONCE more the N.F.U. is taking up the cudgels on behalf of those farmers who are losing their land because there is open-cast coal to be won there. These unfortunate farmers whose holdings are wrecked have so far been getting inadequate compensation. The eye may be taken out of a farm leaving the rest far from economical to work. It is true that eventually the farmer may get his land back again when the open-cast mining has been done, but it is not the same land. The scientists promised us that if the top soil were removed and stored for replacement after mining, the land for farming would be no worse and indeed might be improved. This is not working out well in practice. Those of us who are fortunate enough not to be farming in areas where there is coal or iron ore near the surface wish Sir James Turner, the President of the N.F.U., more success when he pursues the matter further with the Ministers of Agriculture and Fuel.

Mineral Supplements

MANUFACTURERS of animal feeding-stuffs will meet the scientists on January 26 to discuss minerals in compound cakes. The harder we press our cows to yield more milk the more careful we should be to see that they have all that they need to stand the strain. There are many factors involved, including the character of the soil and herbage, and a special mineral mixture cannot be made up to suit every farm, but there are some common deficiencies that can be covered in this way.

Potato Harvesting

PICKING potatoes is one of the most back-breaking jobs on the farm and now-a-days in many districts it is considered work beneath the dignity of the village women and schoolchildren. With the closing of the Ministry of Agriculture's gable labour hostels more of us will have to think about investing in potato-harvesting machinery or inducing a local contractor to do so. An enquiry lately made by the National Institute of Agricultural Engineering shows that potato harvesters have reached a degree of mechanical efficiency that makes possible, at least on light or stone-free land, as long a working season as with any other machine, except a horse-drawn potato plough. So I am hoping that someone will be enterprising enough to set up as a potato harvesting contractor in my district.

CINCINNATUS

THE ESTATE MARKET

“SET THE BUILDERS FREE”

FURTHER unwarranted controls over all forms of building enterprise are lamented by Messrs. Fox and Sons, the well-known South Coast estate agents. It is particularly regrettable, they write in a review of the property market for last year, that at a time when so many people are inadequately housed, the private builder is not given a free hand, subject perhaps, to some control of selling price. They are convinced that if this were done, more houses would be provided. Meanwhile, they predict that the curtailment of licences for private building may cause a hardening of the prices of medium-sized houses, in spite of the increasing shortage of money. But at the same time they emphasise that since it may be years before there is competitive free enterprise in building—by which time it is possible that costs of labour will have risen still higher—the would-be house owner may not be ill-advised to buy now.

DEMAND FOR 100-ACRE PROPERTIES

IN point of fact, says the report, the demand for the medium-sized country house of character with up to 100 acres of land still far exceeds the supply. This tendency of the market is also noted in a letter from Messrs. Wickworth and Co., an extract from which reads: “Generally speaking, we have found during the last year that the brisk demand for country houses with 10 bedrooms and 100 acres has been well maintained despite the unsteady economic conditions.” They add that they have also had numerous enquiries for larger farms of, say, 400 or 500 acres, and that although the intending purchasers have been prepared to pay up to £100 an acre for suitable properties with vacant possession, there are very few to be had in the south of England.

The demand for all classes of investment property has been remarkably good, say Messrs. Fox and Sons, and they have done far more business than in previous years. They believe that the general uncertainty which has prevailed in the gilt-edged market and in industrial equities has caused more attention to be focused on the better type of property investments as being a more tangible asset and offering better security. The demand for good-class shop property, blocks of flats and houses let at pre-war rents has been particularly keen.

HOTEL PRICES LOWER

HOTELS and boarding-houses, on the other hand, have not been so popular. Although large deals have been negotiated, and although the overall turnover has been but slightly reduced, prices have been lower than in 1948, owing, probably, to the Catering Wages Act, which has restricted hoteliers' profits. However, it is hoped that the devaluation of the £ will encourage visitors from abroad, although it is emphasised that if it is to do so concessions will have to be made to the industry to allow modernisation to be carried out. Controls on meal prices and other restrictions will also have to be eased if foreigners are to be attracted.

Of the Town and Country Planning Act, Messrs. Fox and Sons write that the complicated and protracted process which must be pursued before development can take place will deter many a would-be developer. While this is of little moment at present, since building licences are virtually unobtainable, they foresee that serious hold-ups will occur when Government

policy changes. They add that it is the considered opinion of many members of the profession that the Act will prove too cumbersome to administer advantageously in its present form, and will require drastic amendment before it is workable. But they agree that many of the Act's planning provisions may prove admirable if they are administered with “the minimum of bureaucratic interference and with the maximum of enlightened foresight.” These impressions of the Act endorse those expressed by Mr. Norman J. Hodgkinson (Messrs. Bidwell and Sons) and recorded in these columns a fortnight ago.

7,000-ACRE ESTATE SOLD

AN important sale of agricultural land in South Yorkshire is that of the East Doncaster Estates Company's properties at Cantley, Auckley and Armthorpe, which have been bought by the Metropolitan Railway Country Estates, Limited. The land involved, which totals approximately 7,000 acres, lies a few miles to the south-east of Doncaster, and constitutes the remainder of the Fitzwilliam estates in that area. The sale includes the village of Cantley, parts of the villages of Auckley and Branton, 32 arable farms, six medium-sized houses, a large number of cottages and about 660 acres of woodland. The purchasers will give tenants the opportunity of buying their holdings.

The sale was negotiated by Messrs. Henry Spencer and Sons, of Retford, for the vendors, and by Mr. W. M. Balch and Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley for the Metropolitan Railway Country Estates, Limited.

BUCKLAND HOUSE TO BE LET

BUCKLAND HOUSE, Faringdon, Berkshire, is to be let unfurnished or partly furnished, by Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. The house, which dates from 1757, was designed by John Wood, the younger, of Bath, and its accommodation, consisting of hall, ballroom, seven reception rooms, 28 bedrooms, and 12 bathrooms, suggest that it would be suitable for use as a school or religious institution. The grounds comprise 21 acres, and include extensive lawns.

The same firm of estate agents, with Messrs. Rees Reynold and Hunt, are to auction the Grange, Great Bowden, Leicestershire, a stone-built Georgian house in the middle of good hunting country. The property is offered with 25 acres, but a further 125 acres is available if required.

SIR JOHN BLACK TO SELL ESTATE

SIR JOHN BLACK has decided to sell Mallory Court, his 570-acre estate near Leamington Spa, Warwickshire. He has instructed Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley to find a private buyer for the property or, failing that, to auction it as a whole or in lots next April. Sir John, who is deputy chairman and managing director of Standard Motor Co., Ltd., has spent many thousands on the place, and Mallory Court, a medium-sized house, has a heated swimming-pool, hard tennis court and squash court. Vacant possession of the house, with four cottages and the home farm of 50 acres, is available on completion.

Mr. A. H. Stenholme, business premises manager of Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, has been taken into partnership. Mr. Stenholme is a Fellow of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors. He has represented England at fencing. PROCURATOR.

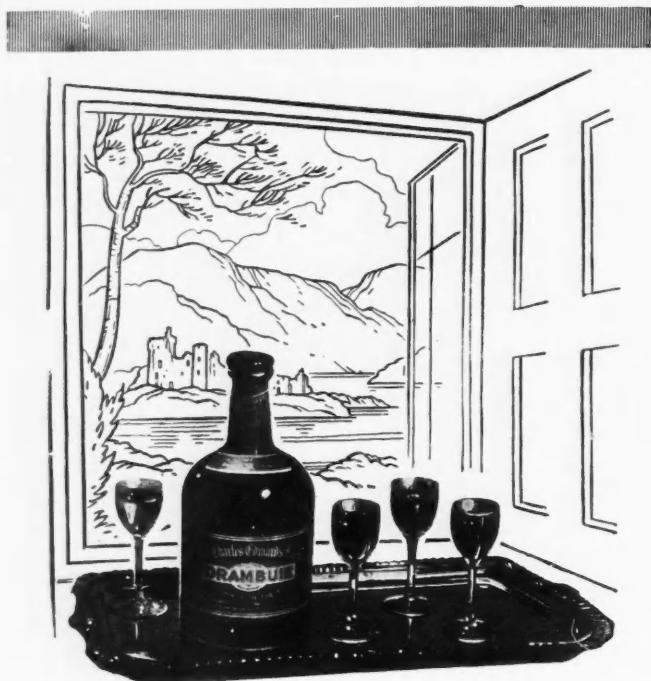
‘Caledon’
Jade Green

During the early years of the present century, the anthraquinone dyestuffs were developed from coal tar chemicals for use with cottons and cellulosic rayons. These new dyes gave the dyer a range of colours both more permanent and more brilliant than he had had before. But the range was incomplete; there was no green of brilliant hue.

In 1921, the discovery of 16:17-dimethoxydibenzanthrone gave the world the dyestuff known as ‘Caledon’ Jade Green. The ingenious piece of research that led to ‘Caledon’ Jade Green was carried out by Arthur Davies, Robert Fraser Thomson and John Thomas of Scottish Dyes Ltd. — a company later merged in I.C.I. They started with an established blue dye, dibenzanthrone, which they transformed by chemical means into an unattractive green powder, insoluble in water. In the process of application this was convertible into a soluble form, enabling it to be dyed on to cloth, and then oxidised to give the vivid green shade that is now famous throughout the world.

‘Caledon’ Jade Green is especially resistant to laundering and dry-cleaning, besides being little affected by bright sunlight. Its discovery was a major achievement of the British dyestuffs industry, and ranks as one of the world's five greatest dyestuffs discoveries of recent years, three of which have been the work of I.C.I. chemists.





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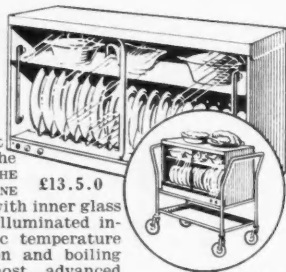
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NEW BOOKS

DEAN INGE SPEAKS OUT

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

DR. W. R. INGE is in his 90th year, and 15 years have passed since he left the Deanery of St. Paul's. He went there in the spring of 1911, and was told that Asquith wished "to revive the tradition of the Deanery as the most literary post in the Church—the tradition of Colet, Donne, Tillotson, Milman, Mansel and Church." He was then 51 years old, and not much had been heard of him outside Church circles. There he was well known, for he came of an ecclesiastical family, and so did his wife. She was a grand-daughter of Harvey Goodwin, Bishop of Carlisle, and a cousin of Randall Davidson, Archbishop of Canterbury. When

irrevocable, by which affairs may be steered. Here the Dean does not fail us. "Our ultimate aim is to live in the knowledge and enjoyment of the absolute values, Truth, Goodness and Beauty. . . . If any social amelioration is to be hoped for, its main characteristic will probably be simplification rather than further complexity." This occurs in the Romanes Lecture of 1920, here reprinted.

It would be folly to pretend that the author of this diary was at home in the Church of England. He gives us plenty of outspoken criticisms of eminent Churchmen and such general reflections as this: "Henson showed me the printed draft of the Resolu-

DIARY OF A DEAN. By the Very Rev. W. R. Inge (Hutchinson, 21s.)

PROFITABLE WONDERS. By E. L. Grant Watson (COUNTRY LIFE, 15s.)

DIARY OF A COUNTRY PARSON. By James Woodforde (Oxford University Press, 7s.)

they married, Dr. Inge had a quiet West End living—"aristocratic, with a preponderance of rather elderly people." Soon after this he became Lady Margaret Professor of Divinity at Cambridge. Then came St. Paul's, and soon the Dean was a figure of national—of international—fame.

From his new book, *Diary of a Dean* (Hutchinson, 21s.), we learn that his popularity surprised him. "My extraordinary and incomprehensible vogue as a preacher and lecturer continues unabated. In any town of the United Kingdom, and beyond it, too, my name will fill any lecture hall. Again and again I have been told that 'hundreds were turned away'."

FORTUNE FROM HIS PEN

He was 70 when he wrote that, and he wasn't altogether pleased about it. He wonders whether it is all too facile, "rushing about the country. . . . Have I been frittering away my time and not allowing myself to think earnestly and write carefully?" As a journalist he has become popular. He is making some thousands a year by his pen, and he asks himself: "Can I honestly say that I have earned them?"

He has acquired a reputation as "a die-hard Tory and extreme pessimist." But this is nothing new. Before the first World War he had noted: "I was certainly irritated by the thoughtless optimism of opinion at this time, but I never predicted anything half so bad as has now come upon us." In particular, he was convinced of two things: that this country is dangerously over-populated and that "the future belongs to nations with a lower standard of living and a higher standard of work than ours."

This, to a superficial view, may justify the nickname of "gloomy Dean," but, since the name was first used, the human dilemma has reached such a tragic intensity that one is inclined to consider as a shining optimist anyone who proclaims some extra-human standard, fixed and

tions of the Lambeth Conference. A rather pitiful performance. Free Church ministers are to submit to episcopal ordination as the price of reunion. On social questions a sloppy and invertebrate Socialism. Total abstinence the only legitimate way to limit a family. What am I doing in this galley?" Or: "Our new Canon tells me that he is so sickened by the back-biting and bad spirit in Amen Court that he wants to go . . . Cathedral Chapters do not set a good example of Christian charity." Or: "In England, and I think in other countries, too, almost all serious thinking on theology is done by laymen." "I despise ecclesiastical millinery." "Bernard Shaw says I am a Quaker, and he is not far wrong. . . . I said to Jacks: 'When I am kicked out of the Church of England I think I know where I shall go.' He replied: 'When the Unitarians have had enough of me, and I think they nearly have, I will come with you.'"

FRIEND OF SHAW

Jacks and Shaw suggest the range of his friendships, which was unexpectedly wide and varied. All the outstanding social and political names of the last half century find their way into the book. He and his wife are on a constant pilgrimage from one great house to another. He comments upon this when mentioning a churchman accused of tuft-hunting. "I do not think that he was personally responsible for what my friend thought unduly social ambition. It might be said of us too that we associate mainly with persons above our station. The things come unsought. If I ever resign my Deanery, we shall subside quietly into the normal obscurity of a retired parson."

What is in question, rather than tuft-hunting, is an intense human curiosity, and it takes him not only into great houses but, after seeing a show at the Hippodrome, "behind the scenes to talk to George Robey and others of the actors." To me, it is an engaging as well as a stimulating person who appears in these pages.

Here is a bit of the Dean's self-judgment: "I have done many things that I am heartily ashamed of, and very few that I can remember with satisfaction. But I believe that I have been honest, and have not bowed myself in the House of Rimmon more than I could possibly help." Those last six words have a crystal honesty.

WHAT IS CHANGE?

Mr. E. L. Grant Watson has a rather perplexing phrase on the last page of his *Profitable Wonders* (COUNTRY LIFE, 15s.). The book glances at Darwin's view of chance variations occurring in all directions, the favourable surviving by natural selection, the unfavourable perishing. "According to this view, the idea of a Creator became superfluous." What Mr. Grant Watson's book comes to is a rather timid questioning of this view. He doesn't come down very strongly anywhere, but he exhibits a series of "profitable wonders" which surround us in the natural world and leaves us again and again with the question: Are we sure that this is chance? He rarely gets beyond may. "Fate may appear as purpose. The unknown, irrational (or perhaps super-rational) background of being is speaking in this purpose. It may then seem that there is no such thing as the giant of chance."

The perplexing phrase to me is on which appears to sever man from the rest of creation. "We do not know where man ends and the rest of the universe begins; what attributes are human and what are Nature's." Such a phrase is disturbing to one who believes, as I do, that one of the fundamental tragedies of our time is that man acts as though this duality existed, so that "Nature" is something outside himself which he may with impunity (as he foolishly thinks) ravage and despoil; and disturbing, too, is another phrase on this same page which says: "Within the limits of what we vaguely call life is both the space-time-energy system and the mind, which latter is not of the space-time-energy system, but which values it. Its values are constantly changing."

The words I have italicised strike a different note from Doctor Inge's "absolute values"—not Doctor Inge's alone. Values can "constantly change" only if men decide what "values" are, and if we leave that to human decision rather than accept an "absolute," then we are up against the large question: "Who is to make the decision?" That, in its turn, clearly opens the way for a dictatorship, physical or mental, to tell us what we must believe.

Apart from these few dissident thoughts, I thoroughly enjoyed Mr. Grant Watson's book. He has travelled much and observed in many parts of the world the profitable marvels of animal and plant life, of the rocks, of water and of dust. In his writing he uses, so to speak, both the microscope and the telescope. The broad sweep of such a subject as bird migration, or the minute particularities of what goes on inside an oak apple: these alike find him both well informed and well able to present his information in a most readable way. Many illustrations by Mr. C. R. Tunnicliffe, one of which was reproduced in COUNTRY LIFE of December 23, 1949, contribute to the book's excellence.

LIFE OF A NOBODY

I am glad to see that the Oxford University Press has added to the World's Classics James Woodforde's

Diary of a Country Parson (7s.). This parson differs in some startling particulars from Dr. Inge, and his diary is a contribution towards our understanding of that odd mental and social cosmopolis that is the Church of England.

Woodforde was published between 1924 and 1931 in five volumes, and later Mr. John Beresford condensed the more characteristic and illuminating passages into one volume. This is the version used in the present edition.

FOUR SERVANTS FOR £18 P.A.

The record covers the second half of the 18th century, and one might say that its value to everybody lies in the fact that Woodforde was a nobody.

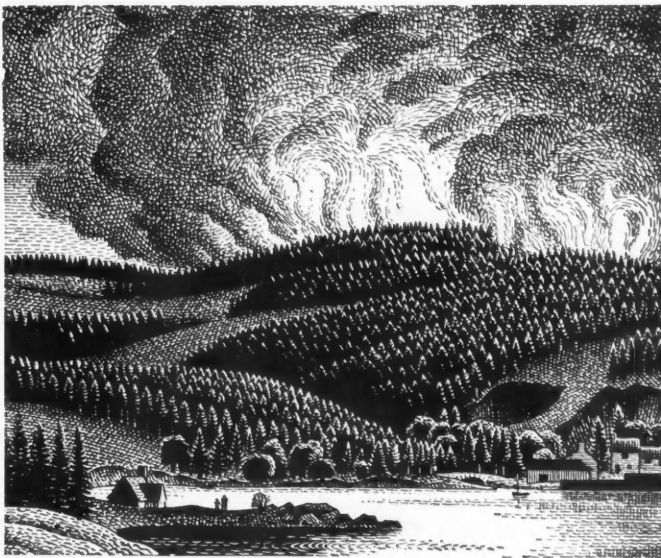
The diary begins in 1758 when Woodforde was an 18-year-old undergraduate at Oxford, drinking like a fish and playing the fool generally, and ends in the autumn of 1802, two months before his death. He became Rector of Weston Longville, in Norfolk, when he was 36 and stayed there for the rest of his life, a well-contented bachelor who managed to keep three servants and a "farming man"—his most highly paid employee (£10 a year). The boy-servant received 10s. 6d. a year! Woodforde's tithes brought him in £260. The wages bill of the four servants totalled £18 12s. 6d.

Here in the diary Woodforde is on view with his cows and sheep and cornland, a good garden, plenty of fishing, a riding horse and hounds for coursing. A quiet whistle in the night brings him to the window to whisper with "one Richard Andrews, a smuggler," who has tea and silk to sell. The tea cost Woodforde 10s. 6d. a pound—exactly the annual wages of his boy.

Because he was the "average sensual man," accepting life as he found it, slothful, unconcerned with reform or the things of the mind, he is able to give us a wonderful picture of life in the country at that time. What he puts down is the day-to-day doings of farmers and shepherds, inn-keepers and serving-maids, smugglers and minor gentry, and what he himself had to eat. Increasingly, his god was his belly. He does for us in words what his contemporary Rowlandson did in line, and does it as well as Rowlandson.

THE PURPOSE OF A GARDEN

IT is more than forty years since Sir George Sitwell's essay *On the Making of Gardens* first appeared in print and a great deal has happened since then to change the face of the world—even the gardening world. There is probably no one left in this country who can afford to think of garden design in the spacious terms which no doubt seemed quite ordinary in 1909. Nevertheless much that Sir George Sitwell has to say regarding the purpose of a garden and the principles that should control its design is as valid to-day as ever it was. "The garden, in every language, speaks of seclusion. To flower and plant and tree it is a cloistered refuge from the battle of life, a paradise where, free from the pinch of poverty and the malice of their enemies, they may turn their thoughts and their strength from war to beauty." It would be difficult to better that in any age and, incidentally, it gives a fair specimen of the Sitwell style, which, if a trifle lush, is still a great deal better than most of what passes for style in 1950. The Dropmore Press is to be congratulated on re-issuing this essay in a handsome limited edition with a foreword by Sir Osbert Sitwell and illustrations by John Piper. The price is 105s. for signed copies (leather-bound) and 30s. for unsigned copies. A. H.



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mes amis!



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VOGUE

for Quilting



Quilting in a shell pattern decorates the hem of Janet West's short, mole velvet skirt. There is more on the cape and the muff. The sweater is in plain black silk jersey

Photographs by COUNTRY LIFE Studio.

QUILTING has taken a definite place among the favourite styles for midwinter and all of the many versions of quilted silk evening skirts are an asset on a country house visit. They are being shown with sweater tops in wool or silk jersey, long-sleeved, high-necked, dead plain, and, as an accessory, one of the deep, dazzling necklaces. There are also lace blouses, to go with them, definitely not for the cold country house, but very chic in a heavy white or *écru* lace. In the *Mattli boutique* is an ankle-length quilted skirt in emerald and black shot ottoman silk like a dragon-fly's wings. This has a long-sleeved black jersey top with a deep square yoke in transparent, stiffened tulle that is outlined in a row of glittering black jet. His short quilted skirt, equally slim about the hips and waist and gored at the hemline, has its top in black gros-grain folded back from a low V neckline, or it can be worn with a variety of sweater tops. Janet West quilts the hem of her pale grey velvet skirt in a shell pattern and gives it a dear little quilted cape and black silk jersey top. Chintz skirts are quilted in trellis patterns and all the skirts have the stitching graded so that the design is large at the hem, small at the waist. These skirts look best on the slim, but they also look well on the large woman if she is tall enough.

The quilting idea is carried out in various ways in many fabric collections. One of the newest silks from the West Cumberland Mills is a *matelassé* satin, and they have also produced the puckered



Mattli make an ankle-length skirt in emerald and black shot ottoman silk and quilt it all over in a heart pattern. The long-sleeved top is in black silk jersey with a yoke of stiffened black tulle outlined with jet

nylon chiffons which have much the same quilted surface but a diaphanous texture and are one of the popular fabrics for the spring. The *matelassé* silks make successful top coats for cool summer day and evening jackets.

Raised and corded lines and checks are other evidence of the tendency which is making itself felt of a liking for depth in the weave. The fine corded woollens and coat-weight tweeds with a slub check or stripe have an entirely new look to them. The texture of these fabrics is soft in the extreme so that they make up well into the softened silhouette with rounded shoulders and low shoulderline. The stiff silks are often embossed in raised trellis and geometric patterns in velvet or chenille and linens treated in this way are also beginning to appear. Slub linens and heavy rayon weaves like *shantung* are being featured by many of the houses. The latest *Moygashel* fabric is a *bouclé rayon* which looks exceptionally well in the range of grey and biscuit tones. Cotton voiles woven with a slub stripe or dot

(Continued on page 124)



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are other manifestations of the same tendency in design. The combination of fine and thick yarns in one fabric and intricate weaving effects will make fabric selection for the spring doubly interesting. These fabrics are difficult to weave and have not been possible until the experienced technicians had time to train a sufficient number of workmen.

Miles of tulle must have been pleated and ruffled into party dresses for this winter. The vast accordion pleated skirts in two or three layers and in two or three colours giving a shot effect are charming. For the spring and summer, short black tulle dresses with short-sleeved, tucked shirt tops and wide skirts are equally pretty. Marquisette is another transparent fabric that is being revived by Susan Small for full-skirted frocks with plain shirt tops and jewelled buttons. A sheer black frock is the coolest looking of all in a hot climate, and these fragile silks are a complete contrast to the stiff, rich silks of the last few seasons and look very fresh and new with their fluid skirts and general air of simplicity. The black and *café au lait* nylons that do not require ironing and pack away in a corner are a godsend. The fabric is absolutely matt and falls well.

PASTEL plaid tweed topcoats make a brave array for the spring. The colour blending is charming and out of the usual run with narrow lines of sharp lime green and violet offsetting subtle pale shrimp pinks and the creamy pale tints of tea-rose petals used for the backgrounds. The pale greens run all through everything; often they have so much yellow in them that they verge on the lemon, or they are so blued that they nearly become blue. These pale serge greens are much in vogue among the ranges of fine woollen georgettes and moss crêpes for



Accessories for a cocktail or theatre outfit in black. The cravat is in amber woven with tiny black cyclists. Jacquard. The black kid sandals are piped with gold and have a cushioned wedge heel. Russell and Bromley

two-piece jacket and dress ensembles or afternoon dresses. A certain amount also appears among the tweeds where it can be combined most effectively with a set of oxblood brown accessories. It also looks well with cherry red, with white, violet, parma violet and certain shades of pink—all colours much spoken of by the designers.

Another item that will form the basis of many summer wardrobes is the grey worsted flannel coat. One is included in almost every collection; plain, trim coats with the wide soft collars of the summer and often raglan sleeves and with moderate flares in the back. The newest shape of all is the plain sleeve set into the dropped shoulder of a straight coat with fronts that can wrap over or be turned back all the way down. There are some excellent grey flannel coats in the top price ranges of Utility and also in the more expensive

categories and they are long-term investments in every way. Some three-piece ensembles of jumper suit or tailor-made with matching top coat all in grey worsted fit one out for most spring and summer occasions and have a distinctive elegance of their own with their straight, clean lines and absence of decoration. They rely on cut for their chic.

The dropped shoulder line with a kimono sleeve and often a seam running right over the top of the shoulder to the wrist is featured on many of the grey flannel and shepherd's check worsted suits for the spring. The jackets are often bloused slightly and then belted in closely to the waist. They reach to the hipbone or perhaps a little longer, and the skirts are slim and midcalf length. Sometimes the fabrics are combined, a plain for the skirt and a check for the jacket; or the check will be used on pockets and a big collar that slopes to a point at the waist and deepens at the back to another point.

P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.



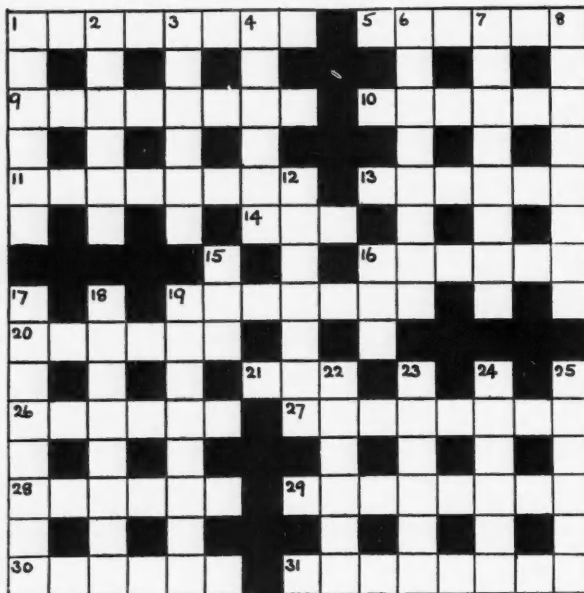
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NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.



Name.....
(Mr., Mrs., etc.)

Address.....

SOLUTION TO No. 1039. The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of January 6, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, Disagreeable; 8, Anson; 9, Catechism; 11, Blustering; 12, Nuts; 14, Robert; 15, Retrieve; 17, Clipsham; 19, Philip; 22, Kish; 23, Whitstable; 25, Splinters; 26, Agree; 27, Iron and Steel.

DOWN.—1, Disturb; 2, Song-thrush; 3, Go-cart; 4, Extended; 5, Arch; 6, Leisure; 7, Banbury cakes; 10, Masterpieces; 13, Architrave; 16, Kathleen; 18, Insular; 20, Liberal; 21, Stasis; 24, Anon.

ACROSS

1. Not practised by the cock of the walk (8)
5. What 11 across should be, to say the least (6)
9. Less gear (anag.) (8)
10. Stupefied (6)
11. To Lamb "the best of Saviors" (5, 3)
- 13 and 14. At Agincourt it was "St. George for England!" (9)
16. Stress, possibly grave (6)
19. French department, Yugoslav town, both yielding a gloss (7)
- 20 and 21. C'enone's confidante (6, 3)
26. Bull's charge or his slender perch? (6)
27. C.O. in army creates bitter feeling (8)
28. Shows utter lack of intelligence (6)
29. On chairs, if not tables (8)
- 30 and 31. For camouflaging feet indoors? (6, 8)

DOWN

1. They do the gnashing (6)
2. Not English and, apparently, not human (6)
3. Examination for big intellects (6)
4. Code of law composed of many little pieces? (6)
6. Kept by Cerberus, no doubt (8)
7. Nash's neckwear? Such lovely ones! (8)
8. Implores (8)
12. And Agra turns into another city (7)
15. "To feel amid the city's —"
"That there abides a peace of this —"
—Matthew Arnold (6)
16. It was fatal to Cleopatra (3)
17. In the morning Monica is slightly disturbed, with pungent effect (8)
18. What healthy children become (8)
19. It expects a response (8)
22. Not merely imaginary (6)
23. See what he got! (6)
24. Old Chamberlain and company go south-east in mirthful mood (6)
25. The shepherd Kings of Egypt (6)

The winner of Crossword No. 1038 is

Mrs. David Birkin
Rowbury Farm,
Leckhampstead, Newbury,
Berkshire.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 66

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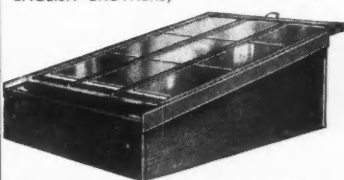
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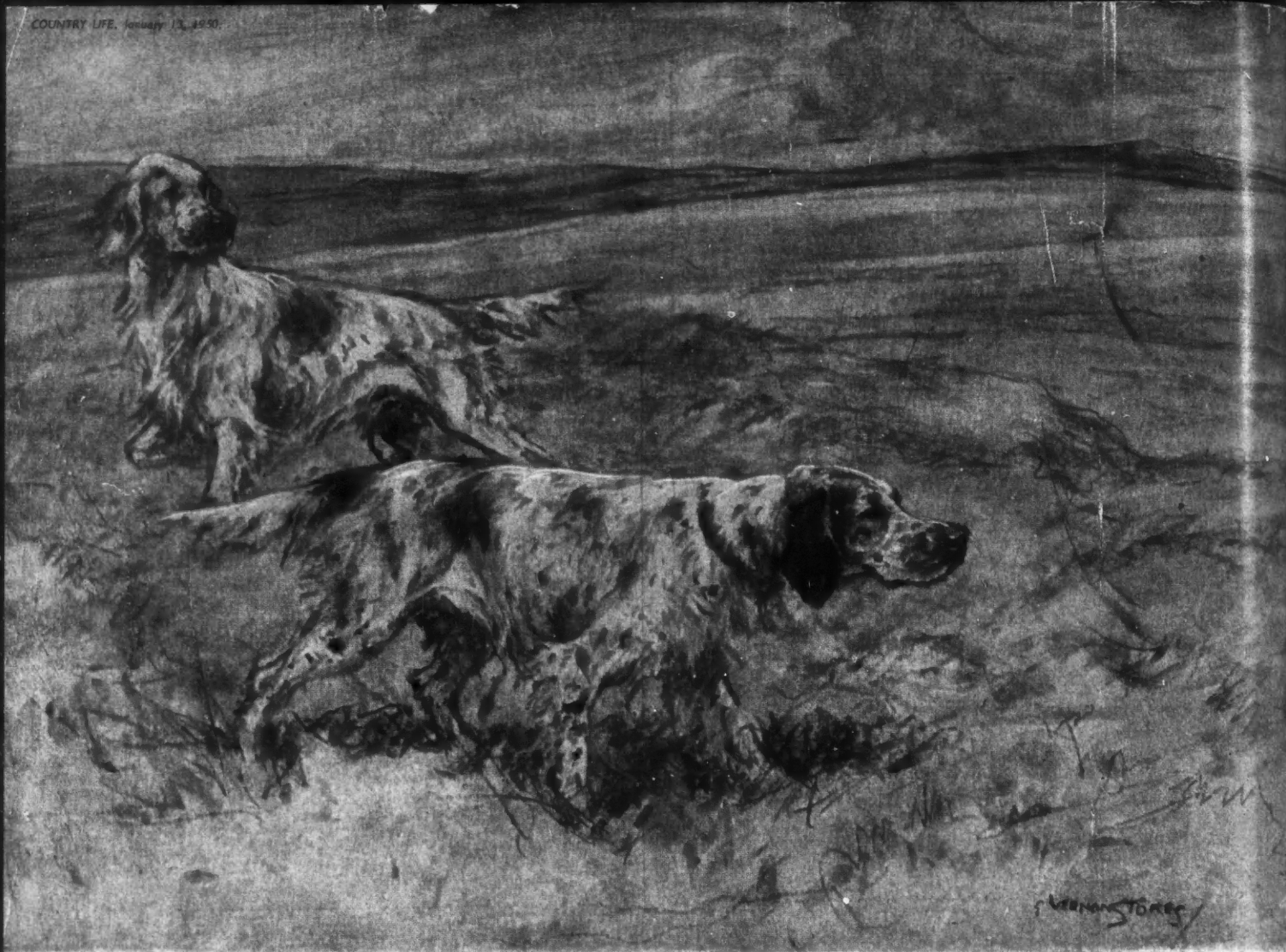


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